CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Proposed Action: Approve Drilling Permit (Form 22)
Project/Well Name: Eden 36-1-12 #14H
Operator: Kraken Operating LLC
State: Montana
Location: NENW T24N R59E Sec. 36
County: Richland
Field (or Wildcat): Wildcat
Proposed Project Date: TBD

I. DESCRIPTION OF ACTION

Triple derrick drilling rig to drill a single lateral horizontal Bakken Formation test, 26,572' MD/10,224' TVD.

II. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

A. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS, OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED

10 days from public notification opportunity to protest for hearing:
- Published in the Helena Independent Record on 2/28/2026.
- Published in the Roundup on 3/4/2026.

No written demand for hearing has been filed per ARM 36.22.602 as of 3/16/2026.

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, GWIC website (Richland County Wells).

US Fish and Wildlife, ENDANGERED, THREATENED, PROPOSED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES MONTANA COUNTIES, Richland County

Montana Natural Heritage Program Website (FWP)
Heritage State Rank= S1, S2, S3, T24N R59E

Montana Cadastral Website
Surface Ownership and surface use Section 36 T24N R59E

Montana Department of Natural Resources MEPA Submittal

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service-Soils Map

B. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

No Action Alternative: Permit to drill the well would not be issued by BOGC.

Action Alternative: Referred to the BOGC for further environmental review.

III. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

A. AIR QUALITY

Long drilling time: No, 5-10 days.
Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig): No
Emission sources: Vehicles traveling on county road to location, combustion engines on location during drilling operations. Fugitive dust from traveling operations and location during active drilling.
Possible H2S gas production: Potentially in Mississippian formations.
In/near Class I air quality area: No.
Air quality permit for flaring/venting (if productive): Yes, DEQ air quality permit required under 75-2-211. AQB review.
Comments: No special concerns – Triple derrick drilling rig to drill a single lateral horizontal Bakken Formation test, 26,572' MD/10,224' TVD. If there are no gas gathering systems nearby, associated gas can be flared under Board Rule 36.22.1220.

B. WATER QUALITY

Salt/oil-based mud: Steel surface casing hole will be drilled with freshwater and freshwater mud system to 2120', Rule 36.22.1001. Will drill with oil-based invert drilling fluids for the intermediate casing hole. Horizontal hole will be drilled with saltwater.
High water table No.
Surface drainage leads to live water: Irrigation canal Main Canal is approximately 1047' west of location, and perennial First Hay Creek is approximately 1132' northeast.
Water well contamination: There are six water wells within a ½ miles radius. There is a domestic well approximately 1634' north with a total depth of 100' and static water level of 35'. There is a public water supply well approximately 1835' northeast with a total depth of 42' and static water level of 4.5'. There is a well approximately 2091' southwest with no assigned use and no test data available. There is a domestic well approximately 2363' northwest with a total depth of 60' and static water level of 20'. There is a stockwater well approximately 2509' northwest with a total depth of 12' and static water level of 10'. There is a domestic well approximately 2519' northeast with a total depth of 38' and static water level of 10.5'. The surface hole will be drilled with freshwater and freshwater mud to 2120' and steel surface casing will be run and cemented back to the surface to protect groundwater.
Porous/permeable soils: No, clay loam.
Class I stream drainage: None.
Groundwater vulnerability area: No.

Mitigation:

__ Lined reserve pit
_X_ Adequate surface casing
__ Berms/dykes, re-routed drainage
_X_ Closed mud system
_X_ Off-site disposal of solids/liquids (in approved facility)
___ Other:

Comments: Steel surface casing will be run to 2120' and cemented back to surface to protect freshwater zones (Fox Hills aquifer) in adjacent water wells, Rule 36.22.1001. Adequate surface casing and BOP equipment to prevent problems, (5,000 psi annular and double ram), Rule 36.22.1014.

C. SOILS/VEGETATION/LAND USE

Vegetation: Cultivated farmland.
Stream crossing: None anticipated.

Erosion potential: Low, cut of up to 7.3' and fill of up to 3.4'.
Loss of soil productivity: No, location will be restored after drilling if unproductive.
Unusually large wellsite (Describe dimensions): A well site of 537'X 465' required for a five-well pad.
Damage to improvements: Slight, to cultivated farmland.
Conflict with existing land use/values: Slight.

Mitigation:

_ _ Avoid improvements (topographic tolerance)
__ Exception location requested
_X_ Stockpile topsoil
__ Stream Crossing Permit (other agency review)
_X_ Reclaim unused part of wellsite if productive
_ _ Special construction methods to enhance reclamation

Access road: Access will be from a +/-466' proposed road from HWY 200.
Drilling fluids/solids: Kraken Operating LLC will not be utilizing a drilling pit. Drilling fluids and solids will be transported to a state approved disposal facility.
Comments:

D. HEALTH HAZARDS/NOISE

Proximity to public facilities/residences: There is one occupied structure within a ¼ mile radius. It is approximately 1075' NW in SESW Section 25 T 24N R 59E. Permit includes notification to occupants to drill per ARM 36.22.620(2). No demand to be heard was received from notified parties per ARM 36.22.620(5).
Possibility of H2S: Possibility in Mississippian formations.
Size of rig/length of drilling time: 5-10 days.

Mitigation:

_X_ Proper BOP equipment
__ Topographic sound barriers
__ H2S contingency and/or evacuation plan
__ Special equipment/procedures requirements
__ Other:

E. WILDLIFE/RECREATION

Sage Grouse: No.
Proximity to sensitive wildlife areas (DFWP identified): None.
Proximity to recreation sites: None.
Creation of new access to wildlife habitat: No.
Conflict with game range/refuge management: No.
Threatened or endangered species within 5 miles: Black-billed Cuckoo, Least Tern, Veery, Bobolink, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Red-headed Woodpecker, Whooping Crane, Bald Eagle, Little Brown Myotis, Silver-haired Bat, Eastern Red Bat, Northern Myotis, Shortnose Gar, Sauger, Sicklefin Chub, Sturgeon Chub, Blue Sucker, Northern Redbelly Dace, Iowa Darter, Paddlefish, Pallid Sturgeon, North American Snapping Turtle, Spiny Softshell, Lachlania saskatchewanensis, Macdunnoa nipawinia, and Homoeoneuria alleni.

Mitigation:

__ Avoidance (topographic tolerance/exception)
__ Other agency review (DFWP, federal agencies, DNRC Trust Lands)
__ Screening/fencing of pits, drillsite
__ Other:

Comments: Cultivated farmland. There may be species of concern that may be impacted by this wellsite. We ask the operator to consult with the surface owner as to what he would like done if a species of

concern is discovered at this location. The Board of Oil & Gas has no jurisdiction over private surface lands. No concerns.

IV. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

A. HISTORICAL/CULTURAL/PALEONTOLOGICAL

Proximity to known sites:

Mitigation:

__ Avoidance (topographic tolerance, location exception)

__ Other agency review (SHPO, DNRC Trust Lands, federal agencies)

Other: The Board of Oil & Gas has no jurisdiction over private surface lands.

B. SOCIAL/ECONOMIC

Substantial effect on tax base:

__ Create demand for new governmental services

__ Population increase or relocation

Comments: No concerns.

IV. SUMMARY

No long-term impacts expected. Some short-term impacts will occur but can be mitigated.
I conclude that the approval of the subject Notice of Intent to Drill (does/**does not**) constitute a major action of state government significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, and (does/**does not**) require the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

EA Checklist Prepared By:	**Name:** Allison YoungSwallow	**Date:** 5/27/2026
	Title: Compliance Technician	