

PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Notice to Water Users

(Pursuant to Section 85-2-307, MCA)

The following application has been submitted to change a water right in the State of Montana.

THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION PROPOSES TO GRANT AN APPLICATION TO CHANGE A WATER RIGHT. DESCRIBED BELOW ARE THE PERTINENT FACTS WHICH SUMMARIZE THE APPLICATION. THE DRAFT PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION (PD) DOCUMENTING THE FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ANY CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO THE WATER RIGHT ARE AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT <https://dnrc.mt.gov/Water-Resources/Water-Rights/application-status-environmental-assessments/>.

PUBLIC COMMENT DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 7, 2026. PUBLIC COMMENTS MUST BE FILED ON A PUBLIC COMMENT FORM, FORM 654, AND MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE STATED DEADLINE. THE FORM IS AVAILABLE ON THE DEPARTMENT’S WEBSITE OR CAN BE OBTAINED FROM ANY WATER RESOURCES REGIONAL OFFICE. MAIL PAPER COPIES OF THE COMPLETED FORM TO: DNRC WATER RIGHTS BUREAU, PO BOX 201601, HELENA, MT 59620-1601. SUBMIT ELECTRONIC COPIES OF THE COMPLETED FORM TO: DNRCWATERRIGHTSCOMMENTOBJECTION@MT.GOV. PER 85-2-307(5)(C), MCA, IF NO PUBLIC COMMENTS ARE RECEIVED, THE DRAFT PD WILL BE ADOPTED AS FINAL AND THERE WILL BE NO OPPORTUNITY TO OBJECT TO THIS APPLICATION.

DIRECT ANY QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO THE APPLICATION, OR REQUESTS TO OBTAIN THE DRAFT PD OR PUBLIC COMMENT FORM TO THE WATER RESOURCES OFFICE AT 210 SIXTH AVE., PO BOX 1828, HAVRE, MT 59501-1828 FAX: 406-265-2225 PHONE: 406-265-5516.

Application Number: 40S 30175909

Applicant: RICHLAND COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
2745 W HOLLY ST
SIDNEY, MT 59270 9201

WATER RIGHT NUMBER(S) BEING CHANGED

<u>Water Right Type</u>	<u>Water Right Number</u>	<u>Priority Date</u>
CONSERVATION DISTRICT RECORD	40S 30172430	JULY 1, 1985

PAST USE OF WATER

THIS APPLICATION IS TO CHANGE A PORTION OF THE RICHLAND COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT WATER RESERVATION FROM THE MISSOURI RIVER THAT HAS NOT YET BEEN PUT TO USE AND THEREFORE NO HISTORICAL USE FOR THE AMOUNT OF WATER BEING CHANGED EXISTS.

PROPOSED CHANGE

THE APPLICANT PROPOSED TO ADD POINTS OF DIVERSION AND PLACES OF USE TO THE RICHLAND COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT WATER RESERVATION, 40S 84500-00, THAT WERE NOT INCLUDED IN THE ORIGINAL WATER RESERVATION PUBLIC NOTICE. THE APPLICANT PROPOSES TO PERMANENTLY ADD A POINT(S) OF DIVERSION AND PLACE(S) OF USE AND TEMPORARILY ADD PLACE(S) OF USE.

THIS IS A TEMPORARY CHANGE AUTHORIZATION THAT ALSO INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING TEMPORARY CHANGE AUTHORIZATIONS: 40S 30175907, 40S 30175908, AND THE FOLLOWING PERMANENT CHANGE AUTHORIZATIONS: 40S 30173545. PURSUANT TO ARM 36.12.1305(4), WATER RIGHT CHANGES WITH TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT COMPONENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED ON A SINGLE APPLICATION FORM.

THE APPLICANT OBTAINED WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE DNRC TRUST LAND MANAGEMENT DIVISION TO TEMPORARILY IRRIGATE AC ON THE STATE TRUST LAND FOR THE DURATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL & GRAZING LEASE OF STATE LANDS AGREEMENT NOS. 10540 AND 10576 EXPIRATION OR TERMINATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL & GRAZING LEASE OF STATE LANDS AGREEMENT NOS. 10540 AND 10576 WILL RESULT IN THE REVOCATION OF TEMPORARY CHANGE AUTHORIZATION AND WILL REVERT TO THE APPLICABLE PREVIOUS ACTIVE CHANGE VERSION:
IF STATE LEASE AG-10540 EXPIRES OR IS TERMINATED, THE CHANGE VERSION WILL REVERT BACK TO CHG AUTHORIZATION VERSION 3 (APPLICATION NO. 40S 30175907).
IF STATE LEASE AG-10576 EXPIRES OR IS TERMINATED, THE CHANGE VERSION WILL REVERT BACK TO CHG AUTHORIZATION VERSION 4 (APPLICATION NO. 40S 30175908).
IF BOTH STATE LEASE AG-10540 AND STATE LEASE AG-10579 EXPIRE OR ARE TERMINATED, THE CHANGE VERSION WILL REVERT BACK TO CHG AUTHORIZATION VERSION 2 (APPLICATION NO. 40S 30173545).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

THIS RIGHT IS SUBJECT TO THE TYPE OF WATER USE MEASURING DEVICE OR WATER USE ESTIMATION TECHNIQUE REQUIRED BY THE CONSERVATION DISTRICT. THE APPROPRIATOR SHALL KEEP WRITTEN RECORDS OF THE FLOW RATE AND VOLUME OF WATER USED. RECORDS SHALL BE SUBMITTED BY NOVEMBER 30 OF EACH YEAR AND UPON REQUEST AT OTHER TIMES DURING THE YEAR. FAILURE TO SUBMIT REPORTS MAY BE CAUSE FOR REVOCATION OF THE CHANGE. THE RECORDS MUST BE SENT TO THE WATER RESOURCES REGIONAL OFFICE. THE WATER USER SHALL MAINTAIN THE MEASURING DEVICE SO IT ALWAYS

OPERATES PROPERLY AND MEASURES FLOW RATE AND VOLUME ACCURATELY.

PUBLISHED IN: SIDNEY HERALD LEADER ON AUGUST 8, 2026.