

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice to Water Users
(Pursuant to Section 85-2-407(3), MCA)

The following application has been submitted to renew a temporary authorization for change.

NEW EVIDENCE OF ADVERSE EFFECT TO OTHER WATER RIGHTS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING BY **AUGUST 10, 2026**. MAIL THE EVIDENCE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION, PO BOX 201601, HELENA, MT 59620-1601.

ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS APPLICATION SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE WATER RESOURCES REGIONAL OFFICE AT 2705 SPURGIN RD, BLDG C, PO BOX 5004, MISSOULA, MT 59804-5004 FAX: 406-542-5899 PHONE: 406-721-4284.

Application Number: 76H 30017372

Applicant: CLARK FORK COALITION
PO BOX 7593
MISSOULA, MT 59807 7593

WATER RIGHT NUMBER(S) BEING CHANGED

<u>Water Right Type</u>	<u>Water Right Number</u>	<u>Priority Date</u>
STATEMENT OF CLAIM	76H 114340-00	JUNE 1, 1886
Historical Flow Rate: 2.37 CFS	Historical Consumptive Volume: 332.50 AC-FT	Historical Diverted Volume: 872.8 AC-FT

PAST USE OF WATER

THE 2.37 CFS FLOW RATE FOR THIS WATER RIGHT HAS BEEN DIVERTED FROM LOLO CREEK AT A HEADGATE LOCATED IN THE SENWNW SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 11 NORTH, RANGE 20 WEST, MISSOULA COUNTY. THIS DIVERTED FLOW RATE HAS BEEN CONVEYED TO THE 44-ACRE PLACE OF USE LOCATED IN THE SW SECTION 32, TOWNSHIP 12 NORTH, RANGE 20 WEST BY A 1.6 MILE LONG DITCH WITH A MEASURED CAPACITY OF 4.75 CFS. THE DIVERSION OCCURRED CONTINUOUSLY FROM APRIL 28 THROUGH OCTOBER 31 OF EACH YEAR FOR IRRIGATION. THE DIVERTED VOLUME OF 872.8 ACRE-FEET IS ESTIMATED BY MULTIPLYING THE 2.37 CFS FLOW RATE BY THE 186-DAY PERIOD OF USE. THE CONSUMED VOLUME (332.5 ACRE-FEET) IS ESTIMATED PER DNRC NEW APPROPRIATIONS RULES BY ADDING THE WATER REQUIREMENTS FOR GROWING CROPS ON 44 ACRES AND THE WATER LOST TO SEEPAGE FROM THE CONVEYANCE DITCH. BOTH ESTIMATES ARE DERIVED BY USING NRCS GUIDELINES.

PROPOSED CHANGE

FLOW RATE: 2.37 CFS **VOLUME: 332.50 AC-FT** **ACRES: 0.00**

THIS APPLICATION IS TO RENEW A TEMPORARY CHANGE. THE TEMPORARY CHANGE WAS ORIGINALLY ISSUED ON 05/05/2006 FOR A PERIOD OF 10 YEARS AND SUBSEQUENTLY RENEWED FOR AN ADDITIONAL 10 YEARS. THE AUTHORIZED CHANGE WAS TO THE PURPOSE, POINT OF DIVERSION AND PLACE OF USE OF AN IRRIGATION WATER RIGHT, STATEMENT OF CLAIM 76H 114340-00, IN ACCORDANCE WITH MCA 85-2-407 AND 85-2-408. THE NEW PURPOSE IS TO BE INSTREAM FLOW FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FISHERIES RESOURCE. THE NEW POINT OF DIVERSION AND PLACE OF USE ARE THE APPROXIMATELY 5.9 MILES OF LOLO CREEK FROM THE HISTORIC POINT OF DIVERSION IN THE SENWNW SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 11 NORTH, RANGE 20 WEST DOWNSTREAM TO ITS CONFLUENCE WITH THE BITTERROOT RIVER IN THE NW SECTION 1, TOWNSHIP 11 NORTH, RANGE 20 WEST. THE TOTAL DIVERTED FLOW RATE OF 2.37 CFS AND THE TOTAL CONSUMED VOLUME OF 332.5 ACRE-FEET WILL CHANGE FROM IRRIGATION TO INSTREAM. THE PERIOD OF USE WILL REMAIN APRIL 28 THROUGH OCTOBER 31. THE HISTORIC MEANS OF DIVERSION AND CONVEYANCE (DENTON DITCH) HAVE BEEN OBLITERATED AND CAN NO LONGER BE USED TO DIVERT WATER TO THE 44-ACRE HISTORICALLY IRRIGATED PLACE OF USE. THIS WATER RIGHT HAS BEEN SEVERED FROM THE HISTORIC PLACE OF USE BY DEED.

PUBLISHED IN: MISSOULIAN ON MAY 12, 2026.