Processing Materials

- Work copies of applicant-submitted information
- Deficiency letter
- Deficiency response
- Correct & complete determination
- Any correspondence with the applicant after application receipt and prior to sending the Draft PD

Processing Materials

Water Resources Division – Kalispell Regional Office
655 Timberwolf Pkwy, Ste. 4
Kalispell, MT 59901-1215
(406) 752-2288
DNRCKalispellWater@mt.gov

May 15, 2026

BLAKE WHITNEY THOMPSON REVOCABLE TRUST
PO BOX 7598
SAINT PETERSBURG, FL 33734-7598

Subject: Correct and Complete Application for Beneficial Water Use Permit Application No. 76LJ 30172157

Dear Applicant,

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (Department) has determined that your application is correct and complete pursuant to Administrative Rules of Montana 36.12.1601. Please remember that correct and complete **does not mean that your application will be granted**. The purpose of this letter is to indicate that the Department has enough information to analyze your water right application.

The Department will issue a Draft Preliminary Determination within 60 days of the date of this letter per §85-2-307(2)(b), Montana Code Annotated (MCA).

Following issuance of the Draft Preliminary Determination, you (Applicant) will have 15 business days to request an extension of time to submit additional information, if desired pursuant to §85-2-307(3)(a), MCA.

If no extension of time is requested and the Draft Preliminary Determination decision is to grant your application or grant your application in modified form, the Department will prepare a notice of opportunity to provide public comment, per §85-2-307(4)(a), MCA.

If no extension of time is requested and the Draft Preliminary Determination decision is to deny your application, the Department will adopt the Draft Preliminary Determination as the final determination per §85-2-307(3)(d)(ii), MCA.

Please contact me at (406) 752-2702 or Jack.Vanderbilt@mt.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jack Vanderbilt
Water Resource Specialist
Kalispell Regional Water Resources Office

Cc via email: Mikel Siemens and Christy Teska, Core Water Consulting

Core Water Consulting

April 15, 2026

Jack Vanderbilt, Water Resource Specialist
Montana Dept of Natural Resources and Conservation
655 Timberwolf Pkwy, Ste 4
Kalispell, MT 59901

RE: SW Permit Application 76LJ 30172157
for Blake Whitney Thompson Revocable Trust
22581 MT HWY 35 in Section 29, Township 25 North, Range 19 West, Flathead County

Dear Mr. Vanderbilt:

A deficiency letter was received from DNRC regarding the application for beneficial water use permit 76LJ 30172157 on March 23, 2026. Responses are provided to clarify the application intent. For ease of reference agency inquiries are summarized in italics, followed by the response.

1. Form 600 – Question 36
Concern: You request a flow rate of 20 gpm in the table on question 18 of form 600. However, in your explanation on question 36, you state that a flow rate of 13.5 gpm will be needed for the largest zone of irrigation. You further clarify that the remaining 6.5 gpm will be used for the frost free hydrants, but it is not specified in what capacity. Will the hydrants be used to irrigate the orchard trees, or for some other purpose? What are the specific circumstances that will require the use of the remaining 6.5 gpm from the frost free hydrants? Please explain why 20 gpm is requested for the total appropriation when 13.5 gpm will satisfy the use.

Response: There are three frost-free hydrants on the surface water diversion system. See Figure 2 for the location of Hydrant A, B, & C. The intent of these hydrants is for maintenance on the system and supplement irrigation at times of irrigation with the proposed place of use.

Hydrant A is near the pumphouse, which will facilitate the draining of the system annually. Hydrant B is near the Booster Pump, which provides air gap in the system, also for maintenance on the system. Hydrant C is the hydrant that would supplement orchard irrigation in times of maintenance of specific tree needs.

One frost-free hydrant diverts 5 to 9 gpm with standard hose. Hydrant C is prior to the drip system, so water would be produced at the hydrant prior to the system component further in the distribution line. One zone may be operating, but supplemental water may be required in an additional area. Orchard trees have lifespan, and when being replanted, water would supplement the new tree from a hydrant instead of the entire drip zone. A hydrant hose can sprinkle in areas, not within the zone

currently being served. The frost-free hydrant water would divert to keep the same crops healthy within the defined place of use.

The density of trees within the orchard may also be increased, with additional drip lines from the primary distribution line. Once procuring the water right, the owner may expand the system for more trees since a reliable water source is being developed. There are spots within the Place of Use where there were historical trees, but today there are not.

The property resides in mountainous terrain and delivery from the point of diversion to the cherry orchards is across terrain that is subject to inefficient crop uptake given the course soils. The frost-free hydrant can assist in areas for specific trees in a zone that may undergo atypical stress related to soil conditions. The soil conditions for the east lake shore of Flathead Lake have extensive gravels with minimal fine substrate. The USDA Web Soil Survey map and the soil description affiliated with Courville gravelly silt loam are attached. Based upon the soil and the gravels in the area, the effective flow rate and volume to provide water to an irrigated orchard is higher than a typical diversion due to rapid infiltration over the gravels.

2. Form 600 – Question 42
Concern: ARM 26.12.1801(3)(b) states: The applicant does not need to explain that the flow rate or volume for each purpose is reasonable if there are no other associated rights appurtenant to the proposed place of use. Since there is an existing groundwater certificate (76LJ 30172163) that has an overlapping place of use, you will need to explain how the proposed flow rate is reasonable to accomplish the proposed purpose.

Response: The groundwater certificate 76LJ 30172163 is based upon historical water diversion practices. Moving forward that practice would be secondary. The surface water diversion upon permitting will be the dominant and primary diversion for the orchard. Once this permit is acquired, the flow rate of 20 gpm will divert to irrigate the orchard, as well as the frost-free hydrant C for reasons outlined above, while the well will primarily serve domestic purposes.

Since the groundwater permit is based upon historical practices and has earlier priority date, this water right would be a backup plan if a valid call for water was asserted on the surface water source. Orchards are very expensive to establish, so maintaining both available water supplies is desired.

3. Form 600 – Affidavit & Certification
Concern: The printed name and signature provided for the Blake Whitney Thompson Revocable Trust is insufficient. ARM 36.112.1802(2) states: If a representative of the applicant signs the application form affidavit, the representative shall state the relationship of the representative to the applicant on the form, such as president of the corporation, and provide documentation that establishes the authority of the representative to sign the application, such as a copy of a power of attorney. You did not provide the full printed name and title of the signatory for the Blake Whitney Thompson Revocable Trust. Additionally, the date of the signature, August 26, 2025, predates the submission of the preapplication material. Please provide a new signature page for this application.

Response: The owner signed all forms for the pre-application meeting and this form simultaneously as they knew CWC would continue the application. The date for signature on an application should not be considered a deficiency. A signature page with the complete and full name on the application, updated date, and relationship identified is provided with the power of attorney.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please let me know.

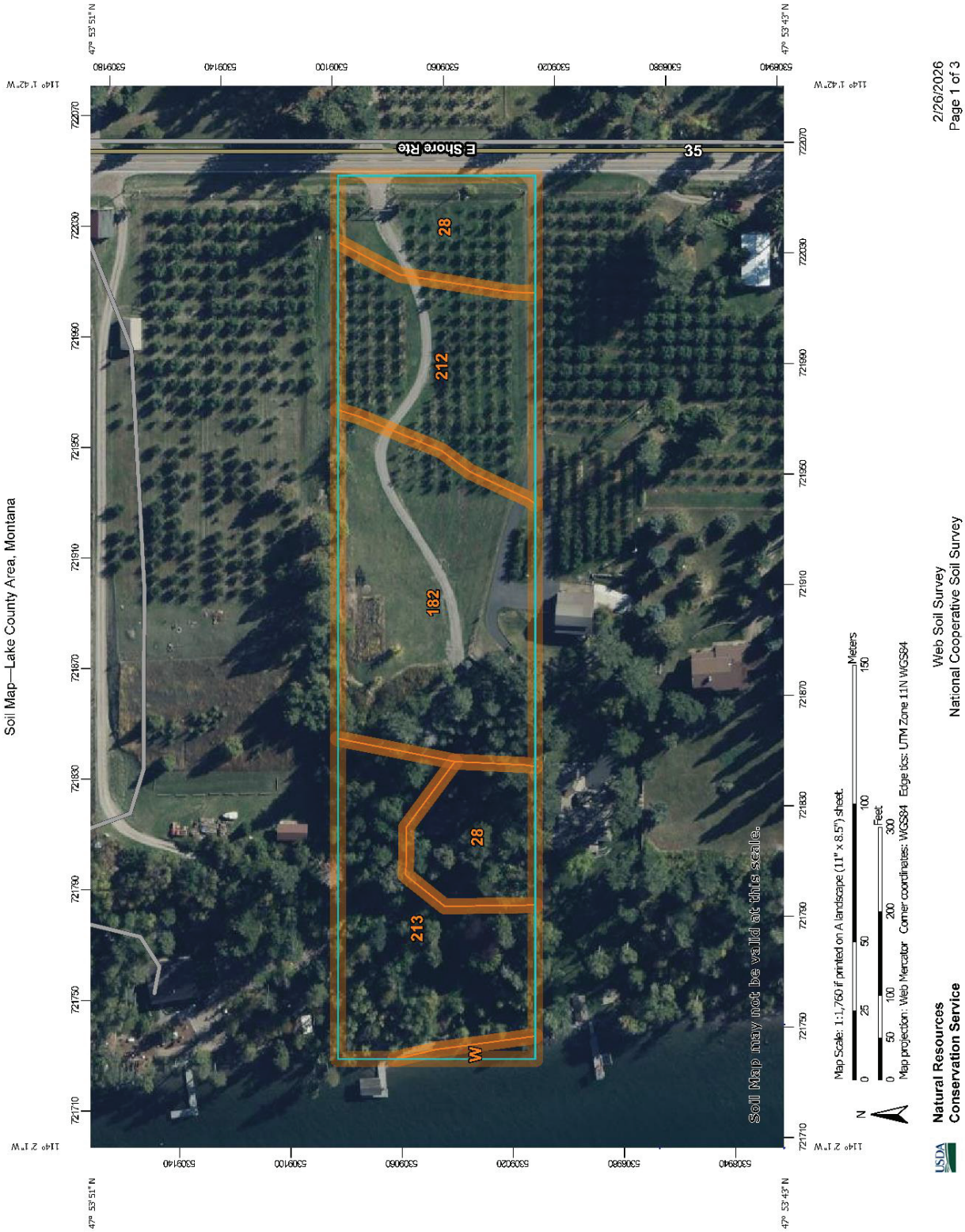
Best regards,

Mikel Siemens, P.E.
Environmental Engineer

Attached:
USDA Web Soil Survey
Signature Page for Form 600, Expanded
Docusign Certificate of Signature
Figure 2. Means of Diversion

Enclosed:
Signature Page for Form 600, Expanded
Power of Attorney
Figure 2. Means of Diversion

USDA Web Soil Survey



Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
28	Courville gravelly silt loam, 4 to 15 percent slopes	1.2	20.8%
182	Winfall very gravelly loam, 4 to 15 percent slopes	1.9	34.2%
212	Yellowbay very gravelly loam, 0 to 4 percent slopes, lake effect	1.1	20.0%
213	Yellowbay very gravelly loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes, lake effect	1.3	24.0%
W	Water	0.1	1.0%
Totals for Area of Interest		**5.6**	**100.0%**

Updated Signature Page for Form 600

Docusign Envelope ID: B90BEEC4-F890-8396-817F-673BB4FE72A3

AFFIDAVIT & CERTIFICATION

Read carefully before you sign and review with legal counsel if you have any questions. All owners (or trustees) must sign the form. ***If the owner is a business or trust, include the title of the representative(s) signing the form (i.e., president, trustee, managing partner, etc.) and provide documentation that establishes the authority of the representative to sign the application.*

I affirm the information provided for this application is to the best of my knowledge true and correct. If a preapplication meeting form was submitted, I am aware that my application for this project will not qualify for a discounted filing fee and expedited timelines if upon submittal of the application to the Department, I changed any element of the proposed application from the preapplication meeting form and follow-up materials (ARM 36.12.1302(6)(a)).

I affirm I have possessory interest, or the written consent of the person with the possessory interest, in the property where the water is to be put to beneficial use, unless this application meets an exception to the possessory interest requirements in ARM 36.12.1802(1)(b).

I understand that making a false statement under oath or affirmation in this application and official proceedings throughout the examination of my application may subject me to prosecution under § 45-7-202, MCA, a misdemeanor punishable by a jail term not to exceed 6 months or a fine not to exceed $500, or both. I have read this Affidavit and understand the terms and conditions.

I declare under penalty of perjury and under the laws of the state of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct.

Printed Name THOMPSON BLAKE, TRUSTEE

Applicant Signature Signed by: 2A41ED54903C439... Date: 3-26-26

Printed Name _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date: _____

Printed Name _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date: _____

Docusign Certificate of Signature

docusign

Certificate Of Completion		
Envelope Id: B90BEEC4-F890-8396-817F-673BB4FE72A3		Status: Completed
Subject: Complete with Docusign: Blank Signature Page for Form 600.pdf		
Source Envelope:		
Document Pages: 1	Signatures: 1	Envelope Originator:
Certificate Pages: 3	Initials: 0	Christy Teska
AutoNav: Enabled		christy@corewaterconsulting.com
EnvelopeId Stamping: Enabled		IP Address: 184.166.183.88
Time Zone: (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)		

Record Tracking		
Status: Original 3/26/2026 6:53:17 AM	Holder: Christy Teska christy@corewaterconsulting.com	Location: DocuSign

Signer Events	Signature	Timestamp
Thompson Blake blake@blakeip.com Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)	Signed by:  2A41ED54903C439... Signature Adoption: Drawn on Device Using IP Address: 35.143.22.139	Sent: 3/26/2026 6:55:21 AM Viewed: 3/26/2026 7:29:51 AM Signed: 3/26/2026 7:30:23 AM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:
Accepted: 3/26/2026 7:29:51 AM
ID: f247692d-122a-41aa-98ba-77363f18ae80

In Person Signer Events	Signature	Timestamp

Editor Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp

Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp

Intermediary Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp

Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp

Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp

Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp

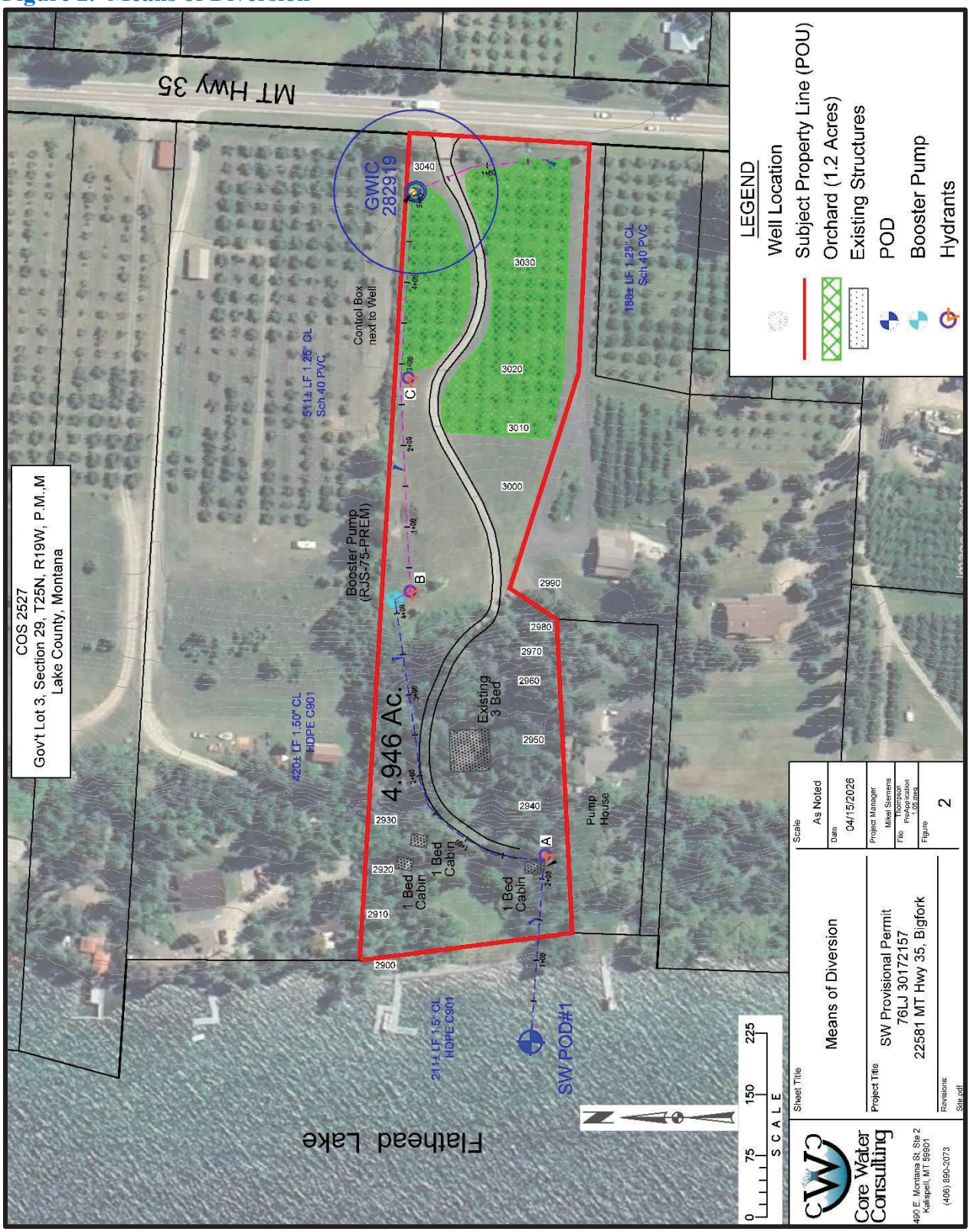
Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp

Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	3/26/2026 6:55:22 AM
Certified Delivered	Security Checked	3/26/2026 7:29:51 AM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	3/26/2026 7:30:23 AM
Completed	Security Checked	3/26/2026 7:30:23 AM

Payment Events	Status	Timestamps

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure

Figure 2. Means of Diversion



AFFIDAVIT & CERTIFICATION

Read carefully before you sign and review with legal counsel if you have any questions. All owners (or trustees) must sign the form. ***If the owner is a business or trust, include the title of the representative(s) signing the form (i.e., president, trustee, managing partner, etc.) and provide documentation that establishes the authority of the representative to sign the application.*

I affirm the information provided for this application is to the best of my knowledge true and correct. If a preapplication meeting form was submitted, I am aware that my application for this project will not qualify for a discounted filing fee and expedited timelines if upon submittal of the application to the Department, I changed any element of the proposed application from the preapplication meeting form and follow-up materials (ARM 36.12.1302(6)(a)).

I affirm I have possessory interest, or the written consent of the person with the possessory interest, in the property where the water is to be put to beneficial use, unless this application meets an exception to the possessory interest requirements in ARM 36.12.1802(1)(b).

I understand that making a false statement under oath or affirmation in this application and official proceedings throughout the examination of my application may subject me to prosecution under § 45-7-202, MCA, a misdemeanor punishable by a jail term not to exceed 6 months or a fine not to exceed $500, or both. I have read this Affidavit and understand the terms and conditions.

I declare under penalty of perjury and under the laws of the state of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct.

Printed Name THOMPSON BLAKE, TRUSTEE

Applicant Signature Signed by: 2A41ED54903C439... Date: 3-26-26

Printed Name _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date: _____

Printed Name _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date: _____

BLAKE WHITNEY THOMPSON REVOCABLE TRUST

THIS IS A TRUST AGREEMENT (sometimes referred to as this "Agreement") dated 12/20/21, 2021, between BLAKE WHITNEY THOMPSON of Pinellas County, Florida (described herein in the first person and sometimes referred to as the "Settlor"), and BLAKE WHITNEY THOMPSON, as Trustee (the "Trustee").

WHEREAS, I desire to create a trust and the Trustee is willing to accept the trust hereby created.

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby transfer the property described on the Schedule attached hereto to the Trustee, IN TRUST, and the Trustee agrees to accept the property and to hold, manage and distribute it under the terms of this Agreement.

ARTICLE I
Family Information

I am not married as of the date hereof. I have no children or other descendants, living or deceased, as of the date of this Agreement. I have, however, made provision under this Agreement for any children or descendants of mine born after the effective date hereof.

ARTICLE II
Trust Name

This Agreement and the trusts hereunder may be referred to as the BLAKE WHITNEY THOMPSON REVOCABLE TRUST.

ARTICLE III
Trust Provisions During Lifetime

During my life, any property held under this Agreement shall be referred to as "the Trust Estate" and shall be disposed of as follows:

A. Distributions. The Trustee shall distribute to me as much of the net income and principal of the Trust Estate as I may from time to time direct, and such additional amounts of net income or principal thereof as the Trustee may at any time and from time to time determine.

B. Undistributed Income. Any net income of the Trust Estate not so distributed shall be accumulated and annually added to principal.

C. Intention. The Trustee shall liberally distribute income and principal of the Trust Estate for my benefit and the rights of the successor beneficiaries hereunder shall be considered secondary. The Trust Estate is established to ensure that the best possible care and

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have signed this Agreement, as Settlor and as Trustee, effective the day and year first above written and executed on the date set forth below.

Dated: 12-20-2021

BLAKE WHITNEY THOMPSON,
as Settlor and as Trustee

This instrument was on the date hereof signed, published and declared by BLAKE WHITNEY THOMPSON, as Settlor of the BLAKE WHITNEY THOMPSON REVOCABLE TRUST, in our presence and in the presence of each of us, and we, at the same time, at said Settlor's request, in said Settlor's presence and in the presence of each other, have hereunto signed our names and addresses as attesting witnesses.

WITNESSES:

Witness

Will Tabor

Print Name

509 S Matanzas Ave, Tampa, FL 33609

Print Address

Witness

Clark Gosling

Print Name

2135 Montana Ave NE, St. Pete, FL 33703

Print Address

Water Resources Division – Kalispell Regional Office
655 Timberwolf Pkwy, Ste. 4
Kalispell, MT 59901-1215
(406) 752-2288
DNRCKalispellWater@mt.gov

March 23, 2026

BLAKE WHITNEY THOMPSON REVOCABLE TRUST
22581 MT HWY 35
BIGFORK MT 59911-8244

Subject: Deficiency Letter for Beneficial Water Use Permit Preapplication No. 76LJ 30172157

Dear Blake Thompson,

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC or Department) has begun reviewing your application. This letter is to notify you of the deficiencies in your application as required in Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 36.12.1501(1) and §85-2-302(5)(b), Montana Code Annotated (MCA). An Applicant is required to submit substantial and credible information addressing the rules and statutes that are relative to your application. You must provide the information specified below for your application to be considered correct and complete. "Correct and complete" means all of the information provided is substantial and credible and provides all of the information as required by applicable rules and statutes. The application as submitted contains deficiencies in the following sections:

- **Form 600, Adequate Means of Diversion and Operation (ARM 36.12.1707) question 36:** *Equipment used to put the water to beneficial use must be submitted including the following: The flow rate and operation of diversions must be described, including the proposed diversion schedule.*
    - *Question: Provide a plan of operations, which includes specific information about how water is delivered within the place of use. This may include, where applicable, the range of flow rates needed for a pivot.*

    - Your response: The zones have Nelson R5 sprinkler heads capable of distributing 18 GPH (.3 GPM). The largest zone (zone 2) has 45 trees, so the entire zone needs a total flow of 13.5 GPM. Zones will be operate "[*sic*]" consecutively. The additional 6.5 GPM accounts for the two frost free hydrants and provides additional tree capacity within the irrigated area. The diverted volume of 2.89 AF over 1.2 acres irrigated amounts to 2.41-ft of water for the cherry trees, which is adequate.

    - You request a flow rate of 20 gallons per minute (GPM) in the table on question 18 of form 600. However, in your explanation on question 36 you state that a flow rate of 13.5 GPM will be needed for the largest zone of irrigation. You further clarify that the remaining 6.5 GPM will be used for the frost free hydrants, but it is not specified in what capacity. Will the hydrants be used to irrigate the orchard trees, or for some other purpose? What are the specific circumstances that will require the use of the remaining 6.5

GPM from the frost free hydrants? Please explain why 20 GPM is requested for the total appropriation when 13.5 GPM will satisfy the use.

- **Form 600, Beneficial Use question 42 (ARM 36.12.1801):**
  - *Question: Does the Department have a volume, period of diversion, or period of use standard for the purposes for which water is proposed? Department standards can be found in the DNRC Water Calculation Guide, ARM 36.12.112, and ARM 36.12.115.*
  - Your response stated: You checked 'Yes' and provided the following additional explanation: The proposed volume (2.89 AF for 1.2 acres), period of diversion, and period of use all fall within department standards for crop irrigation at 70% efficiency in Climatic Area III as identified in ARM 36.12.115.
  - Deficiency: ARM 36.12.1801(3)(b) states: *The applicant does not need to explain that the flow rate or volume for each purpose is reasonable if there are no other associated rights appurtenant to the proposed place of use.* Since there is an existing groundwater certificate (76LJ 30172163) that has an overlapping place of use, you will need to explain how the proposed flow rate is reasonable to accomplish the proposed purpose.

- **Form 600, Affidavit & Certification (ARM 36.12.1802):** *Question: Read carefully before you sign and review with legal counsel if you have any questions. All owners (or trustees) must sign the form. **If the owner is a business or trust, include the title of the representative(s) signing the form (i.e., president, trustee, managing partner, etc.) and provide documentation that establishes the authority of the representative to sign the application.*
  - Your Response:

I declare under penalty of perjury and under the laws of the state of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct.

Printed Name T. Blake

Applicant Signature _____ Date: 8/26/25

  - Deficiency: The printed name and signature provided for the Blake Whitney Thompson Revocable Trust is insufficient. ARM 36.12.1802(2) states: *If a representative of the applicant signs the application form affidavit, the representative shall state the relationship of the representative to the applicant on the form, such as president of the corporation, and provide documentation that establishes the authority of the representative to sign the application, such as a copy of a power of attorney.* You did not provide the full printed name and title of the signatory for the Blake Whitney Thompson Revocable Trust. Additionally, the date of the signature, August 26, 2025, predates the submission of the preapplication materials. Please provide a new signature page for this application.

As stated above, the information submitted to address the rules and statutes listed in this deficiency letter must be substantial credible information to be acceptable at the correct and complete determination. §§85-2-102 (9) and (26), MCA.

Please submit the information specified above to the Kalispell Regional Office by July 21, 2026. This is the only deficiency letter that will be sent. An application not corrected or completed within 120 days from the date of this letter is terminated per ARM 36.12.1501(2) and §85-2-302(6)(a), MCA.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This will be the final opportunity for you to provide the required information to the Department. If all of the requested information in this letter is not postmarked or submitted within 120 days of this letter, the application will be terminated within 30 days, and the application fee will not be refunded.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jack Vanderbilt

Jack Vanderbilt
Water Resource Specialist
Kalispell Regional Water Resource Office
(406) 752-2702
Jack.Vanderbilt@mt.gov

Cc via email: Mikel Siemens, Core Water Consulting

Application Materials

- Application
- Any information submitted with Application including maps

Application Materials

APPLICATION FOR
BENEFICIAL WATER USE PERMIT
§ 85-2-302, MCA

Form No. 600 *(02/2025)*

For Department Use Only

RECEIVED
DNRC Water Resources

MAR 0 2 2026

Kalispell Unit

Application # 30172157 Basin 76LJ
Priority Date _____ Time 16:18 AM/PM
Rec'd By _____
Fee Rec'd $ 700- Check # 5016
Deposit Receipt # KLU262 1942
Payor CORE WATER CONSULTING INC
Refund $ _____ Date _____

FILING FEE

$2900/$1600 – Inside a Basin Closure Area, Controlled Groundwater Area or Compact Closure; without/with filing fee reduction.

$2500/$1200 – Outside a Basin Closure Area; Controlled Groundwater Area or Compact Closure; without/with filing fee reduction.

INFORMATION

An application will be eligible for a filing fee reduction and expedited timelines if the applicant completes a preapplication meeting with the Department (ARM 36.12.1302(1)), which includes submitting any follow-up information identified by the Department (ARM 36.12.1302(3)(c)) and receiving either Department-completed technical analyses or Department review of applicant-submitted technical analyses (ARM 36.12.1302(4) and (5)). An application for the proposed project also must be submitted within 180 days of delivery of Department technical analyses or scientific credibility review and no element on the submitted application can be changed from the completed preapplication meeting form (ARM 36.12.1302(6)). If application is eligible for a filing fee reduction, $500 paid for Form 600P-B will be credited toward filing fees shown above.

Applicant Information: ***Add more as necessary.***

Applicant Name Blake Whitney Thompson Revocable Trust
Mailing Address 22581 MT Hwy 35 City Bigfork State MT Zip 59911
Phone Numbers: Home _____ Work _____ Cell 727-251-7707
Email Address blake@blakeip.com

Applicant Name _____
Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone Numbers: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____
Email Address _____

Applicant Name _____
Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone Numbers: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____
Email Address _____

Contact/Representative Information: ***Add more as necessary.***

Contact/Representative is: ☐ Applicant ☑ Consultant ☐ Attorney ☐ Other
Contact/Representative Name Mikel Siemens, PE; Core Water Consulting
Mailing Address 490 E. Montana Street, Suite 2 City Kalispell State MT Zip 59901
Phone Numbers: Home _____ Work 406-890-2073 Cell _____
Email Address mikel@corewaterconsulting.com

NOTE: *If a contact person is identified as an attorney, all communication will be sent only to the attorney unless the attorney provides written instruction to the contrary (ARM 36.12.122(2)). If a contact person is identified as a consultant, employee, or lessee, the individual filing the water right form or objection form will receive all correspondences, and a copy may be sent to the contact person (ARM 36.12.122(3)).*

Answer every question and applicable follow-up questions. Use the checkboxes to denote yes ("Y"), no ("N"), or not applicable ("NA"). Questions that require items to be submitted to the Department have a submitted ("S") checkbox, which is marked when the required item is attached to the Application. Label all submitted items with the question number for which they were submitted. Narrative responses that are larger than the space provided can be answered in an attachment. If an attachment is used, specify "see attachment" on this form, and label the attachment with the question number. Constrain narrative responses to the specific question as is asked on the form; do not respond to multiple questions in one narrative. Responses in the form of a table may be entered into the table provided on this form or in an attachment. If an attachment is used, the table must have the exact headings found on this form, and "see attachment" must be entered as a response to the relevant question. Clearly label all units in tables and narrative responses.

PREAPPLICATION AND TECHNICAL ANALYSES INFORMATION

1. ☑ **Y** ☐ **N** Do you elect for Department technical analyses to be used for criteria assessment?

2. ☑ **Y** ☐ **N** Did you have a preapplication meeting AND complete a Permit Preapplication Meeting Form Part A and Part B (Form 600P-A and 600P-B)?

IF QUESTION 2 IS NO, answer 2.a and 2.b:

2.a. ☐ **S** Submit the Technical Analyses Addendum (Form 600-TAA).

2.b. ☐ **S** ☐ **NA** Submit the technical analyses, if you elected in question 1 for Applicant technical analyses to be used for criteria assessment. Select "NA" if you elected for Departmental technical analyses.

IF QUESTION 2 IS YES, answer 2.c, 2.d, and 2.e:

2.c. ☐ **Y** ☑ **N** Has any element of the project described in this application changed from the mandatory elements of the project described in the completed form 600P? **If yes:**
2.c.i. Please explain.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

2.c.ii. ☐ **S** Submit the Technical Analyses Addendum (Form 600-TAA).

2.d. ☑ **Y** ☐ **N** Are the technical analyses to be used for criteria assessment exactly the same as those completed during the preapplication process? **If no:**
2.d.i. Please explain.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

2.d.ii. ☐ **S** Submit the Technical Analyses Addendum (Form 600-TAA).

2.e. ☑ **Y** ☐ **N** Did you elect in Question 1 for Department technical analyses to be used for criteria assessment? **If no:**
2.e.i. ☐ **S** Submit the technical analyses.

APPLICATION ADDENDA AND REVIEW

3. ☐ **S** ☑ **NA** If your application is for groundwater, not surface water, and one or more of your points of diversion are in a Basin Closure Area, then submit the Basin Closure Area Addendum (Form 600-BCA).

4. ☐ **S** ☑ **NA** If your application is for groundwater and one or more points of diversion are in a Basin Closure Area, then your project must have a Hydrogeologic Report that conforms with MCA 85-2-361 to comply with the requirements of § 85-2-360, MCA. A Hydrogeologic Report Addendum (Form 600-HRA) or Department Technical Analyses may be used to meet these requirements. Please mark the box below that best applies, then select "S" if submitting a Hydrogeologic Report or "NA" if one is not required. This question does not apply to surface water points of diversion in a Basin Closure Area.

- ☐ If you elected to conduct Technical Analyses, you must submit the Hydrogeologic Report Addendum (Form 600-HRA).
- ☐ If you elected for DNRC to conduct Technical Analyses but did not have a preapplication meeting AND complete a Form 600P Permit Preapplication Meeting Form (or changes have occurred since the completed Form 600P), you must submit the Hydrogeologic Report Addendum (Form 600-HRA).
- ☐ If you elected for DNRC to conduct Technical Analyses, had a preapplication meeting, completed a Form 600P, and the Technical Analyses remain unchanged since the preapplication meeting, you do not need to submit Form 600-HRA because the Department's Technical Analyses meet the report requirements of § 85-2-360 and § 85-2-361, MCA.

5. ☐ **S** ☑ **NA** If the project is for one or more groundwater points of diversion located in a Controlled Groundwater Area, then submit the Controlled Groundwater Area Addendum (Form 600-CGWA).

6. ☐ **S** ☑ **NA** If the project involves an appropriation that is greater than 5.5 CFS and 4,000 acre-feet, then submit a Criteria Addendum Application for Beneficial Water Use Permit for Appropriations Greater than 5.5 CFS and 4,000 AC-FT (Form 600-B).

7. ☐ **S** ☑ **NA** If the project involves out-of-state water use, then submit the Out-of-State Use Addendum (Form 600/606-OSA).

8. ☐ **S** ☑ **NA** If you require mitigation water to meet the criteria of issuance, then submit a Mitigation Purpose Addendum (Form 600/606-MIT).

9. ☐ **S** ☑ **NA** If the proposed purposes include marketing or selling water, (not marketing for mitigation/ aquifer recharge), then submit the Marketing Purpose Addendum (Form 600/606-WMA).

10. ☐ **S** ☑ **NA** If the project involves one or more places of storage, then submit a Permit Storage Addendum (Form 600-SA). This does not include reservoirs, pits, pit-dams, or ponds with a capacity less than 0.1 AF; water tanks; or cisterns (ARM 36.12.113(6)).

11. ☐ **S** ☑ **NA** If the project is in designated sage grouse habitat, then submit a review letter from the Montana Sage Grouse Habitat Conservation Program.

12. ☐ **S** ☑ **NA** If the project includes a point of diversion and/or place of use on State of Montana Trust Land, submit documentation of consent from the DNRC Trust Lands Management Division.

13. ☐ **S** ☑ **NA** You must provide a written notice of the application to each owner of an appropriation right sharing a point of diversion or means of conveyance (e.g., canal, ditch, flume, pipeline, or constructed waterway) pursuant to §85-2-302(4)(c), MCA. Submit a copy of this notice and the recipient list.

PURPOSE AND DIVERSION INFORMATION

14. ☐ **Y** ☑ **N** Is the proposed use temporary?

14.a. If yes, when will the appropriation cease? _____

15. Is the proposed source surface water or groundwater? Surface Water

16. What is the source name? Flathead River (Flathead Lake)

17. ☑ **S** Attach a map utilizing an aerial photograph or topographic map that shows the following: section corners; township and range; north arrow; scale bar; all proposed points of diversion labeled with a unique Point of Diversion (POD) ID number and, if applicable, GWIC number; all proposed places of use; all proposed conveyance facilities and or routes; all proposed places of storage labeled with a unique Storage ID number; and places of use (POU) for all overlapping water rights. More than one map may be submitted, if necessary to clearly convey all required information.

18. Fill out the table below. Means of diversion for surface water includes headgate, pump, dam, and others. Means of diversion for groundwater includes well, developed spring, pit pond, and others.

Purpose	**Means of Diversion**	**Acres Irrigated** (if appl.)	**Period of Diversion** *(Month/Day - Month/Day)*	**Period of Use** *(Month/Day - Month/Day)*	**Flow Rate** ☑ *GPM* ☐ *CFS*	**Volume** *(Acre-Feet)*
Crop Irrigation	Submersible Pump	1.2	04/15 - 10/15	04/15 - 10/15	20	2.89
				Total Flow Rate and Volume Required	20	2.89

19. ☑ **Y** ☐ **N** Does the proposed use include on or more of the following purposes: domestic, multiple domestic, stock, or irrigation? If yes, fill out the following table, where applicable.

Purpose	**Requested Information**	**Response**
Domestic or multiple domestic	Number of dwellings	
Stock	Number of animal units	
Irrigation	Method of irrigation type (sprinkler or flood) and subtype (if flood: level border, graded border, furrow, contour ditch, or other; if sprinkler: center pivot, wheel line, or other)	Sprinkler
Irrigation (flood only)	Design slope	

POINT(S) OF DIVERSION

20. Describe the proposed location of the point(s) diversion to the nearest ¼ ¼ ¼ Section. Label each POD with the POD ID number used for the project map (question 17).

POD #	¼	¼	¼	Sec.	Twp.	Rge.	County	Lot	Block	Tract	Subdivision	Gov. Lot
1	SW	NE	SE	29	25N	19W	Lake					3

PLACE OF USE

21. What are the geocodes of the place of use?

15-3584-29-4-01-04-0000	

22. Describe the legal land description for the proposed place of use and, if applying for an irrigation or lawn and garden purpose, list the number of irrigated acres.

Acres	Gov. Lot	Block	¼	¼	¼	Sec.	Twp.	Rge.	County
1.2	3		SE	NE	SE	29	25N	19W	Lake

SUPPLEMENTAL AND OVERLAPPING WATER RIGHTS

23. ☑ **Y** ☐ **N** Will other water rights supplement or overlap the place of use to contribute to the purpose(s)?

23.a. If yes, summarize how the supplemental and proposed water rights will be operated as a whole to serve the purpose(s).

An existing well on the property serves the residence and a small lawn and garden area surrounding the residence. The well will be secondary irrigation in the case a call for surface water is made. To date, the well has served the orchard.

24. For each supplemental or overlapping water right, please list the water right number, typical period of diversion and use (MM/DD-MM/DD), flow rate (GPM or CFS), and the volume of water (AF) contributed to the shared place of use.

Water Right #	Average Period of Diversion	Average Period of Use	Flow Rate	Volume Contributed
76LJ 30172163	1/1 - 12/31	1/1 - 12/31	16 GPM	4.1 AF (7 AF total)

25. ☐ **Y** ☑ **N** Will this application supplement contract water from a Federal Project, ditch company, or other source?

25.a. If yes, explain.

ADVERSE EFFECT

26. Explain how you can control your diversion in response to a call being made.

Turn pump off. Use supplemental groundwater well as back up. Cease irrigation altogether if necessary.

27. Describe any plans you have for ensuring existing water rights will be satisfied during times of water shortage.

Diversion period can be reduced to a minimum for each irrigation zone. Supplemental water right can be used as a backup. Irrigation could halt if necessary.

28. ☐ Y ☑ N Are you aware of any calls that have been made on the source of supply or, if groundwater, on nearby surface water sources?

28.a. If yes, explain.

29. ☐ Y ☑ N Does a water commissioner distribute water or oversee water distribution on your proposed source?

29.a. If yes, list the source(s).

30. ☐ Y ☑ N Do other water rights share any of the proposed points of diversion?

30.a. If yes, describe how the proposed project will not adversely affect these water rights.

31. ☑ Y ☐ N Do other water rights share any conveyance infrastructure associated with the proposed project?

31.a. If yes, describe how the proposed project will not adversely affect these water rights.

The control box by the well would share the distribution system to the orchard. Valve control which water source is diverting.

ADEQUATE MEANS OF DIVERSION AND OPERATION

32. ☑ **S** Submit a diagram of how you will operate your system from all proposed points of diversion to all proposed places of use.

33. Describe specific information about the capacity of all proposed diversionary structures. This may include, where applicable: pump curves and total dynamic head calculations, headgate design specifications, and dike or dam height and length.

Flathead Lake low pool elevation if 2885-ft vertical lift to the proposed pumphouse at 2920-ft. The 35-ft elevation difference extends over 250-ft distance through 1.5-inch PVC pipe for a friction loss of 7.37-ft. The miscellaneous fittings in the pumphouse were estimated at 0.25-ft of uponor (Pex) line which equals 0.87-ft of friction loss. These values were added to the static head of 219.8-ft to create a total dynamic head of 230-ft. The Grundfos SP25S20-11 can produce 20 gpm at 80 psi with a total dynamic head of 230-ft.

34. Describe the size, materials, capacity, and configuration of infrastructure to convey water from all proposed points of diversion to all proposed places of use. This may include but is not limited to, pipelines and ditches. Include a description of any losses related to the proposed conveyance. Ditch conveyance losses may be estimated numerous ways, which include a ditch loss rate or Department standard methods.

Existing irrigation infrastructure includes a booster pump connected to a buried 1.25-inch PVC pipe which follows the fence line on the northern property line to a control box by the wellhead. From the control box, a water main is extended to the furthest zone (zone 4). From this water main, 0.75-inch PVC pipes extend west (towards the lake) for each of the four zones. Figure 4 shows the layout of the pipes within the zones. New 1.5-inch PVC pipes will be installed from the pump to the pumphouse, and then from the pumphouse to the existing booster pump along the driveway. Figures 2 and 3 present the infrastructure layout (planned and existing).

35. Describe how the proposed diversion and conveyance infrastructure can provide the required flow and volume, for the purposes plus any conveyance losses and storage, throughout the proposed period of diversion.

From the pumphouse, 420-ft of 1.5-inch PVC pipe extends to the booster pump along the driveway; the vertical elevation difference between the booster pump and pumphouse is 72-ft. This creates an additional friction loss of 14.67-ft. The variable frequency drive within the pumphouse will be set to 80 psi to provide 42 psi at the booster pump (tolerable range of pressure is 40 - 60 psi).

36. Provide a plan of operations, which includes specific information about how water is delivered within the place of use. This may include, where applicable, the range of flow rates needed for a pivot.

The zones have Nelson R5 sprinkler heads capable of distributing 18 gph (0.3 gpm). The largest zone (zone 2) has 45 trees, so the entire zone needs a total flow of 13.5 gpm. Zones will be operate consecutively. The additional 6.5 gpm accounts for the two frost free hydrants and provides additional tree capacity within the irrigated area. The diverted volume of 2.89 AF over 1.2 acres irrigated amounts to 2.41-ft of water for the cherry trees, which is adequate.

37. ☐ **Y** ☑ **N** Does the proposed conveyance require easements?

37.a. If yes, explain.

38. ☑ **Y** ☐ **N** Do you own the land where all proposed points of diversion are located?

38.a. ☐ **S** If no, submit documentation to show you have the right to use all points of diversion located on each property you do not own. This may include, but is not limited to, a well agreement, an easement, or permission of the party that owns the property where the proposed point(s) of diversion are located.

39. ☐ **Y** ☑ **N** Will your system be designed to discharge water from the project?

IF YES,

39.a. Explain the wastewater disposal method.

39.b. ☐ **Y** ☐ **N** ☑ **NA** Have the necessary permits been obtained to comply with §§ 75-5-410 and 85-2-364, MCA?

40. ☐ **Y** ☑ **N** Do you have any plans to measure your diversion and use?

40.a. If yes, describe the plan and the type of measurements you will take.

41. ☐ **Y** ☑ **N** Is the means of diversion for any proposed point of diversion a well?

IF YES,

41.a. ☐ **Y** ☐ **N** Have all wells been drilled?

41.b. For all wells that have been drilled, what is the name of the well driller and, if available, what is their license number?

_____

41.c. ☐ **Y** ☐ **N** For all wells yet to be drilled, will a licensed well driller construct the wells?

41.d. ☐ **S** ☐ **NA** Submit any well logs not yet submitted to the Department.

BENEFICIAL USE

42. ☑ **Y** ☐ **N** Does the Department have a volume, period of diversion, or period of use standard for the purposes for which water is proposed? Department standards can be found in the DNRC Water Calculation Guide, ARM 36.12.112, and ARM 36.12.115.

42.a. ☑ **Y** ☐ **N** If yes, do all proposed beneficial uses fall within Department standards?

42.b. If no Department standard exists, or if any proposed beneficial use falls outside of Department standards, explain how the requested flow rate and volume are reasonable for the purpose.

_____
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43. ☐ **Y** ☑ **N** Will your proposed project be subject to DEQ requirements for a public water supply (PWS) system or Certificate of Subdivision Approval (COSA)?

44. ☐ **Y** ☑ **N** Are you proposing to use surface water for in-house domestic use?

44.a. ☐ **Y** ☐ **N** If yes, does a COSA exist for the proposed place of use?

44.a.i. ☐ **S** ☐ **NA** If yes, please submit the COSA.

44.a.ii. ☐ **Y** ☐ **N** If no, have you researched or consulted with DEQ regarding their requirements?

POSSESSORY INTEREST

45. ☐ **Y** ☑ **N** Do you meet one of the exceptions to possessory interest requirements, pursuant to ARM 36.12.1802? Exceptions include cases where the application is for sale, rental, distribution, or is a municipal use, or in any other context in which water is being supplied to another and it is clear that the ultimate user will not accept the supply without consenting to the use of water on the user's place of use.

45.a. If yes, explain.

46. ☑ **Y** ☐ **N** ☐ **NA** Do you own all proposed places of use? Mark "NA" if you meet one of the exceptions to the possessory interest requirement.

IF NO,

46.a. ☐ **S** Explain and submit documentation that shows you either have possessory interest or written permission of the parties with possessory interest of the place of use.

46.b. ☑ **Y** ☐ **N** Would you like the water right to be appurtenant to the land? Please note that if your water right is not appurtenant to land it will not transfer by default with the conveyance of the property, pursuant to § 85-2-403, MCA.

46.b.i. If no, explain.

PROPOSED COMPLETION PERIOD

47. How much time will be needed to complete this project and to submit to the DNRC a Project Completion Notice (Form 617)? 3 years

48. Please describe why this amount of time is needed to complete this project.
Allotted time allows for lakeshore construction permit from Lake County, as well as adequate time for installing irrigation infrastructure, pump, and pumphouse.

AFFIDAVIT & CERTIFICATION

Read carefully before you sign and review with legal counsel if you have any questions. All owners (or trustees) must sign the form. ***If the owner is a business or trust, include the title of the representative(s) signing the form (i.e., president, trustee, managing partner, etc.) and provide documentation that establishes the authority of the representative to sign the application.*

I affirm the information provided for this application is to the best of my knowledge true and correct. If a preapplication meeting form was submitted, I am aware that my application for this project will not qualify for a discounted filing fee and expedited timelines if upon submittal of the application to the Department, I changed any element of the proposed application from the preapplication meeting form and follow-up materials (ARM 36.12.1302(6)(a)).

I affirm I have possessory interest, or the written consent of the person with the possessory interest, in the property where the water is to be put to beneficial use, unless this application meets an exception to the possessory interest requirements in ARM 36.12.1802(1)(b).

I understand that making a false statement under oath or affirmation in this application and official proceedings throughout the examination of my application may subject me to prosecution under § 45-7-202, MCA, a misdemeanor punishable by a jail term not to exceed 6 months or a fine not to exceed $500, or both. I have read this Affidavit and understand the terms and conditions.

I declare under penalty of perjury and under the laws of the state of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct.

Printed Name T. Blake

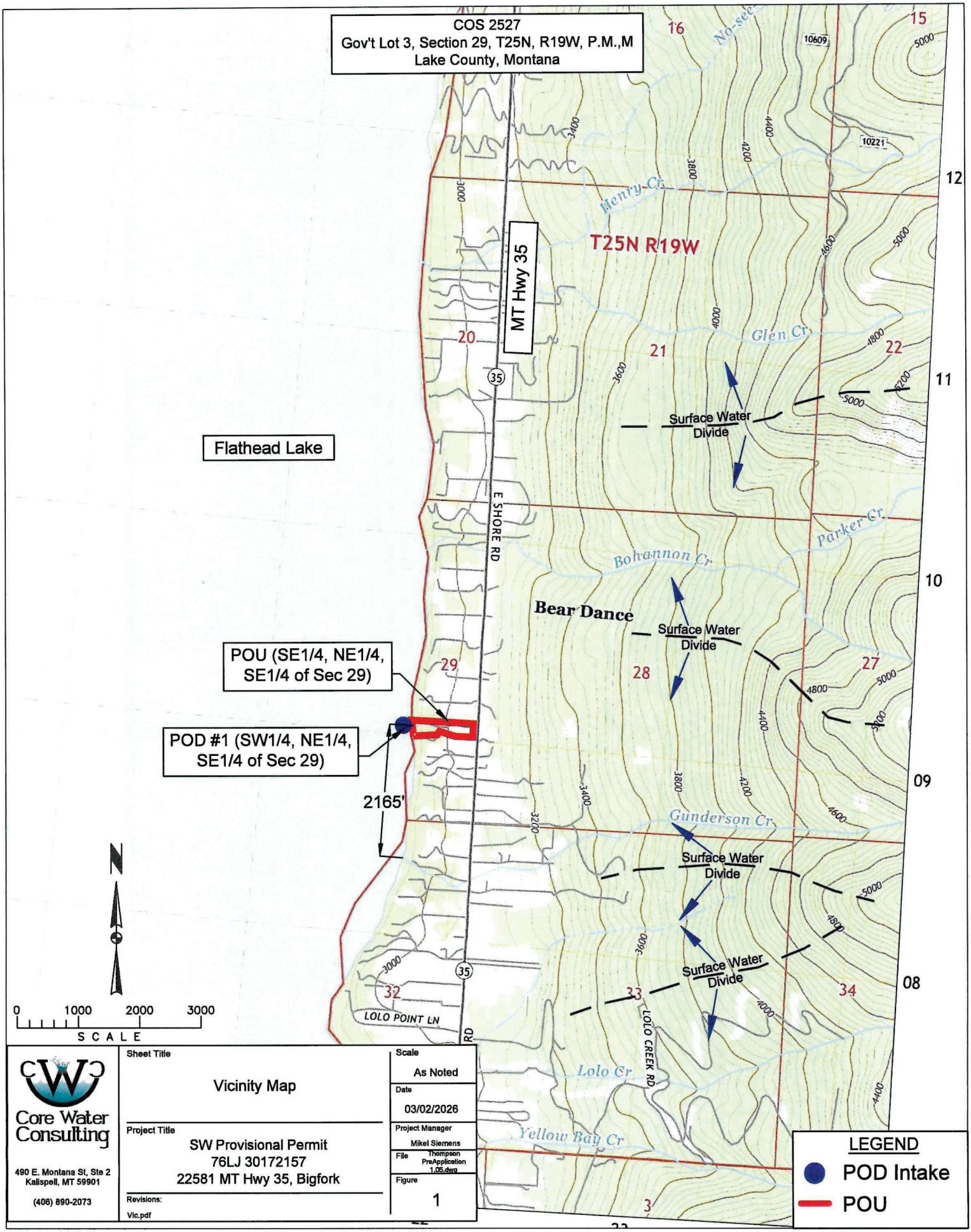
Applicant Signature _____ Date: 8/26/25

Printed Name _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date: _____

Printed Name _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date: _____



Core Water Consulting

490 E. Montana St, Ste 2
Kalispell, MT 59901

(406) 890-2073

Sheet Title: Vicinity Map

Project Title: SW Provisional Permit
76LJ 30172157
22581 MT Hwy 35, Bigfork

Revisions:
Vic.pdf

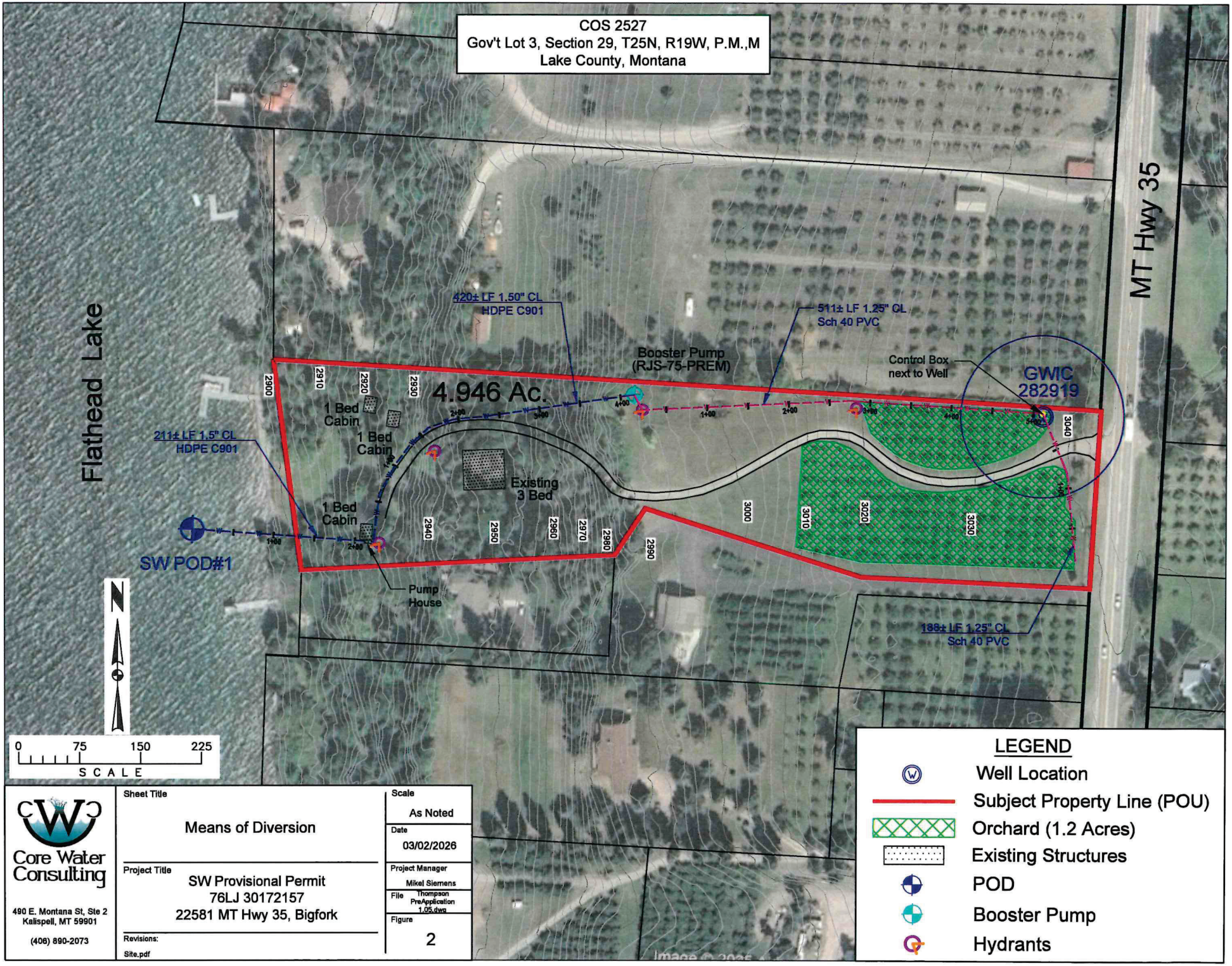
Scale: As Noted

Date: 03/02/2026

Project Manager: Mikel Siemens

File: Thompson PreApplication 1.05.dwg

Figure: 1



Core Water Consulting

490 E. Montana St, Ste 2
Kalispell, MT 59901

(406) 890-2073

Sheet Title

Means of Diversion

Project Title

SW Provisional Permit
76LJ 30172157
22581 MT Hwy 35, Bigfork

Revisions:

Site.pdf

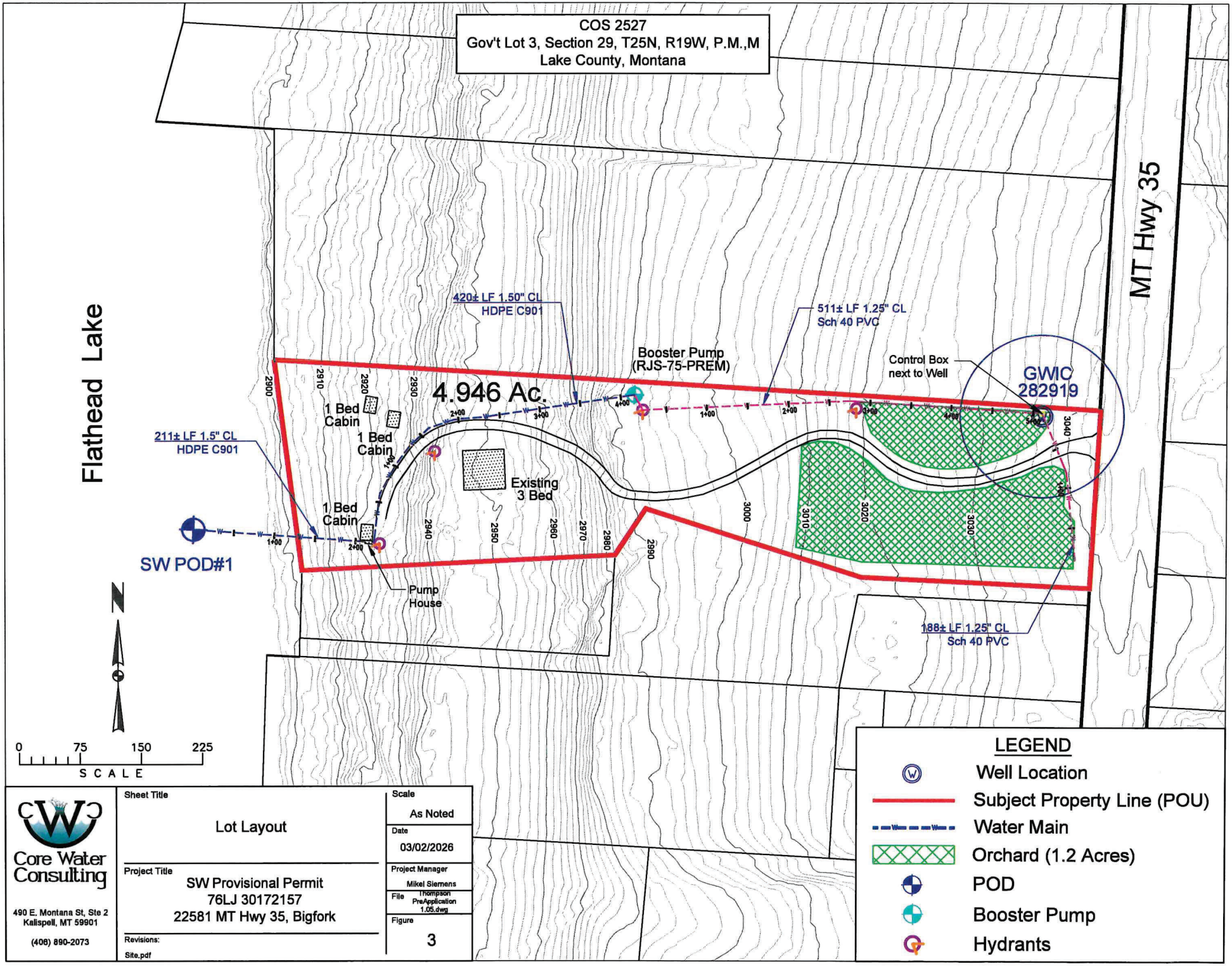
Scale: As Noted

Date: 03/02/2026

Project Manager: Mikel Siemens

File: Thompson PreApplication 1.05.dwg

Figure: 2



Core Water Consulting

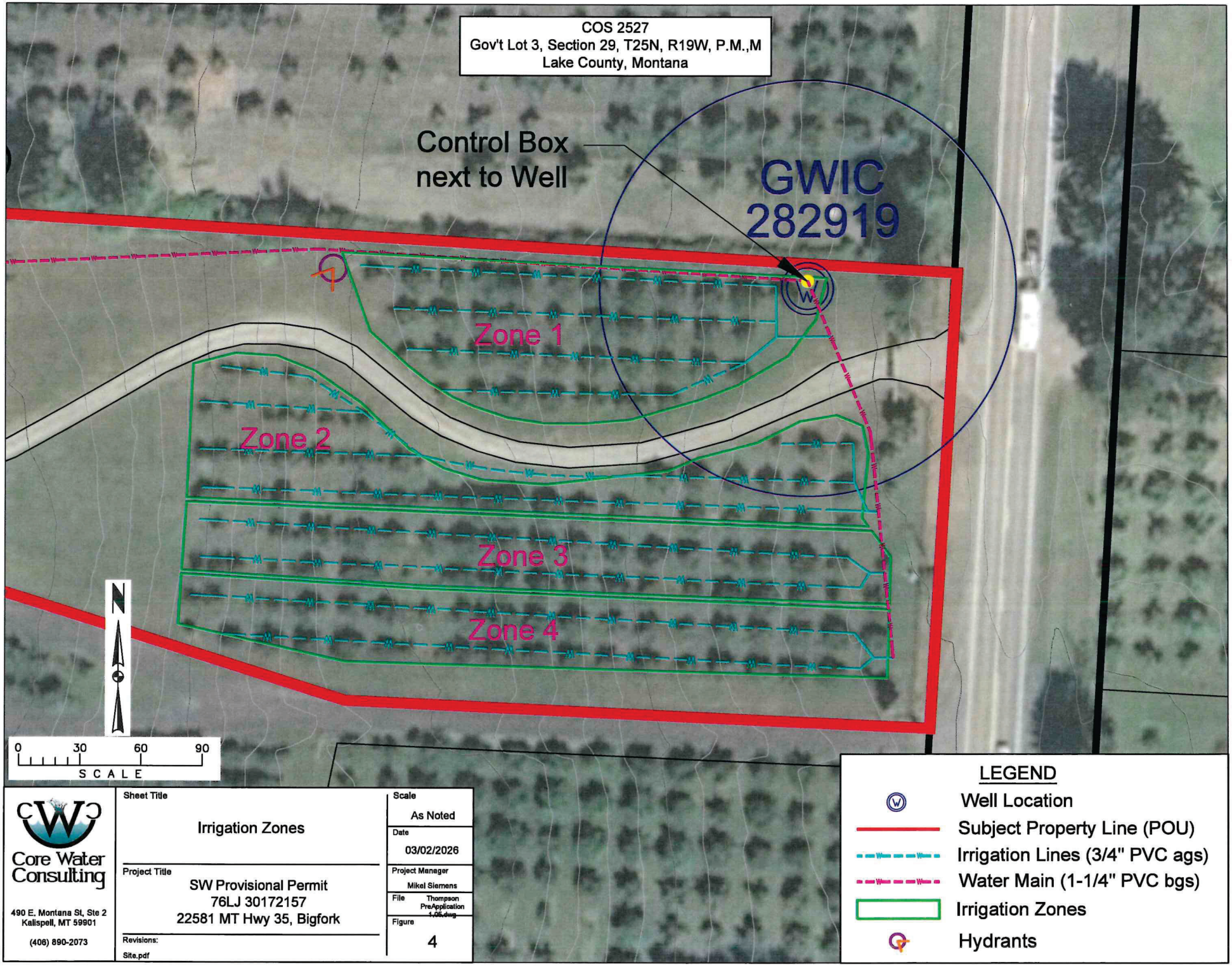
490 E. Montana St, Ste 2
Kalispell, MT 59901
(406) 890-2073

Sheet Title: Lot Layout

Project Title: SW Provisional Permit
76LJ 30172157
22581 MT Hwy 35, Bigfork

Revisions:
Site.pdf

Scale: As Noted
Date: 03/02/2026
Project Manager: Mikel Siemens
File: Thompson PreApplication 1.05.dwg
Figure: 3



Core Water Consulting

490 E. Montana St, Ste 2
Kalispell, MT 59901

(406) 890-2073

Sheet Title
Irrigation Zones

Project Title
SW Provisional Permit
76LJ 30172157
22581 MT Hwy 35, Bigfork

Revisions:
Site.pdf

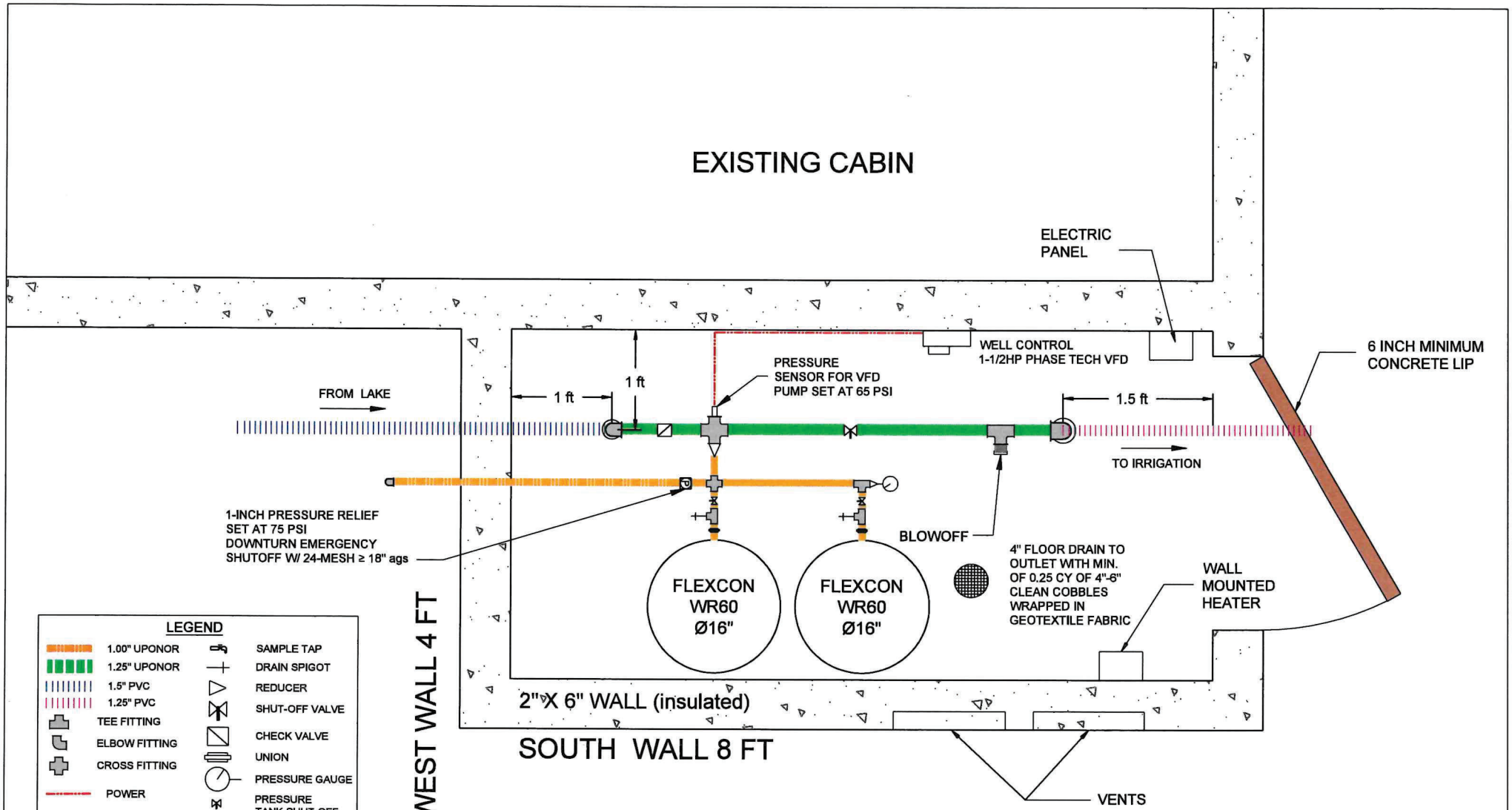
Scale
As Noted

Date
03/02/2026

Project Manager
Mikel Siemens

File
Thompson PreApplication 1.05.dwg

Figure
4



Core Water Consulting
490 E. Montana St, Ste 2
Kalispell, MT 59901
(406) 890-2073

Sheet Title: Pump House

Project Title: SW Provisional Permit
76LJ 30172157
22581 MT Hwy 35, Bigfork

Revisions:
PH-Plan.pdf

Scale: Not to Scale

Date: 03/02/2026

Project Manager: Mikel Siemens

File:

Figure: A

Technical Analyses Report/ Scientific Credibility Review

- Departmental Technical Analyses Report/ Scientific Credibility Review
- Any correspondence relating to the Technical Analyses Report

Technical Analyses Report / Scientific Credibility Review

Water Resources Division – Kalispell Regional Office
655 Timberwolf Pkwy, Ste. 4
Kalispell, MT 59901-1215
(406) 752-2288
DNRCKalispellWater@mt.gov

November 19, 2025

THOMPSON, BLAKE WHITNEY TRUSTEE
22581 MT HIGHWAY 35
BIGFORK MT 59911-8244

Subject: Completed Technical Analyses Report for Beneficial Water Use Permit Preapplication No. 76LJ 30172157

Dear Blake,

As designated on the submitted Preapplication Meeting Form per §85-2-302(3)(b), MCA, the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (Department) has completed the technical analyses for Beneficial Water Use Permit Preapplication No. 76LJ 30172157 based on the information provided in your Preapplication Meeting Form accepted by the Department on November 7, 2025. The technical analyses can be found in the attached report.

This Technical Analyses Report **IS**: A collection of facts that the DNRC has gathered, including content provided in the Preapplication Meeting Form materials. The Department will use these data to analyze the criteria in §85-2-311, MCA if you submit a Form 600 for the project described in the completed Preapplication Meeting Form.

This Technical Analyses Report **IS NOT**: An analysis or discussion of whether the Preapplication Meeting Form as filed meets the criteria in §85-2-311, MCA.

You have 180 days to submit the Beneficial Water Use Permit Application Form 600 considering the information provided in the technical analyses and Preapplication Meeting Form. If the Application Form is not submitted to the Kalispell Regional Office by May 18, 2026, a new preapplication meeting will be required to process the Application with expedited timelines (ARM 36.12.1302(6)(b)). If any details described in the submitted Application are changed from that of the submitted Preapplication Meeting Form, the discounted filing fee and expedited timelines will not apply (ARM 36.12.1302(6)(a)). Please note that the technical analyses will expire one year from the date of this letter (ARM 36.12.1302(8)).

Please contact me at (406) 752-2735 or Abigail.Williams@mt.gov if you have any questions about the application process.

Sincerely,

Abigail Williams
Water Resource Specialist
Kalispell Regional Office

Encl.: Surface Water Permit Technical Analyses Report for Beneficial Water Use Permit Preapplication No. 76LJ 30172157

CC Via Email: Mikel Siemens, Core Water Consulting

Surface Water Permit Technical Analyses Report

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC or Department) Water Resources Division

Abigail Williams, Water Resource Specialist, Kalispell Regional Office

Applicant	Thompson Blake Whitney Revocable Trust
Application No.	76LJ 30172157
Proposed Point of Diversion (POD)	SWNESE Section 29, Township 25N, Range 19W, Lake County

Overview

This report analyzes data submitted by the Applicant in support of the above-mentioned water right application. This report provides technical analyses as required under the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 36.12.1303 in support of the water rights criteria assessment as required in § 85-2-311, Montana Code Annotated (MCA).

This Surface Water Permit Technical Analyses Report contains the following sections:

Variances

No variances were requested for this application.

1.0 Application Details

The Applicant proposes to divert water from Flathead River (Flathead Lake) from April 15 to October 15 at a rate of 20 gallons per minute (GPM) up to a volume of 2.89-acre feet (AF) per year for lawn and garden. Water will be used from April 15 to October 15 to irrigate 1.2 acres of lawn and garden. The point of diversion from the lake is in SWNESE Section 29, Township 25N, Range 19W, Lake County, Montana (**Figure 1**). The proposed place of use is in Government Lot 3, SENENE, Section 29, Township25N, Range 19W, Lake County, Montana(**Figure 1**).

Table 1: Summary of the Proposed Use

Source	Flow Rate (GPM)	Diverted Volume (AF)	Purpose	Period of Diversion	Period of Use	Point of Diversion	Place of Use
Flathead River (Flathead Lake)	20	2.89	Lawn and Garden	04/15 to 10/15	04/15 to 10/15	SWNESE Section 29, Township 25N, Range 19W, Lake County	Government Lot 3, SENESE Section 29, Township 25N, Range 19W, Lake County

2.0 Surface Water Analysis

2.1 Source Description

Proposed Source of Water: Flathead River (Flathead Lake)

Proposed Source Type: Perennial River / Lake System

Proposed Point of Diversion: SWNESE Section 29, Township 25N, Range 19W, Lake County

2.2 Method of Estimation

Gage Name: Flathead River near Polson, MT

Gage Number: 12372000

Period of Record: October 1938 – March 2025

Explanation of why this gage is considered an appropriate data source: USGS Gaging Station No. 12372000 is the nearest gage to the proposed POD and is located approximately 18 miles downstream of the POD. The date range used includes the entire period of record for this gage.

Figure 1: Map of the Applicant's proposed POD on the source and proposed place of use.

2.3 Monthly Flow Rate and Volume

Methodology: Physical availability of Flathead Lake water at the POD will be quantified monthly. Department practice for physical availability analyses where the gaging station used is downstream of the POD is to add the monthly flow rates of existing diversionary water rights between the gaging station and the POD to the median of the mean monthly flows at the gaging station. The DNRC used the method below to quantify physically available monthly flows and volumes at the POD during the proposed period of diversion:

The Department calculated median of the mean monthly flow rates in cubic feet per second (CFS) for the Flathead River (Flathead Lake) using USGS Gaging Station No. 12372000 records for each month of the proposed period of diversion (**Table 2**, column B). Those flows were converted to monthly volumes in AF (**Table 2**, column C) using the following conversion found in the DNRC Water Calculation Guide: median of the mean monthly flow (CFS) × 1.98 (AF/day/1 CFS) × days per month = AF/month.

The Department calculated the monthly flows appropriated by existing users upstream of USGS Gaging Station No. 12372000 (**Table 2**, column D) by:

i. Generating a list of existing water rights from the Flathead Lake inlet down to USGS Gaging Station No. 12372000 (this list is contained in the administrative file and is available upon request);

ii. Designating uses as occurring during their claimed or permitted periods of diversion;

iii. Assigning a single combined flow rate of 0.08 CFS to all livestock direct from source rights without a designated flow rate (per DNRC adjudication standards); and,

iv. Assuming that the flow rate of each existing right is continuously diverted throughout each month of the period of diversion. This assumption is necessary due to the difficulty of differentiating the distribution of appropriated volume over the period of diversion. This leads to an overestimation of existing uses from the source. The Department finds this an appropriate measure of assessing existing rights as it protects existing water users.

Since the gage used is downstream of the POD, the Department added in the flow rates of the existing diversionary water rights between USGS Gaging Station No. 12372000 and the Flathead Lake inlet (**Table 2**, column D) to the median of the mean monthly gage values (**Table 2**, column B) to determine physical availability at the POD from Flathead Lake (**Table 2**, column E). Physically available monthly flows were then converted to monthly volumes (**Table 2**, column F).

Table 2: Physical Availability at the Point of Diversion on Flathead Lake					
A	**B**	**C**	**D**	**E**	**F**
Month	**Median of the Mean Monthly Flows at USGS Gaging Station 12372000 (CFS)**	**Median of the Mean Monthly Volume at USGS Gaging Station 12372000 (AF)**	**Existing Water Rights from the Flathead Lake Inlet to USGS Gaging Station 12372000 (CFS)**	**Physically Available Flow in Flathead Lake at the POD (CFS)**	**Physically Available Volume in Flathead Lake at the POD (AF)**
January	10,380.0	637,124.4	78.73	10,458.7	641,956.8
February	9,133.0	506,333.5	81.31	9,214.3	510,841.3
March	7,748.0	475,572.2	86.5	7,834.5	480,881.6
April	9,214.5	547,341.3	5378.81	14,593.3	866,842.6
May	18,560.0	1,139,212.8	5429.49	23,989.5	1,472,474.9
June	25,400.0	1,508,760.0	5437.57	30,837.6	1,831,751.7
July	12,730.0	781,367.4	5438.12	18,168.1	1,115,159.2
August	6,126.0	376,013.9	5438.12	11,564.1	709,805.7
September	5,956.5	353,816.1	5413.46	11,370.0	675,375.6
October	7,184.0	440,953.9	5385.65	12,569.7	771,525.1
November	8,556.0	508,226.4	90.64	8,646.6	513,610.4
December	9,837.0	603,795.1	81.74	9,918.7	608,812.3

3.0 Area of Potential Impact Analysis

The Area of Potential Impact (AOPI) for this application is: The AOPI is the portion of the Flathead River system (including the entirety of Flathead Lake) from the Flathead Lake inlet in Section 34, Township 27N, Range 20W, Flathead County, downstream to the Seli'š Ksanka Qlispe' (SKQ) Dam in Section 12, Township 22N, Range 21W, Lake County. A total of 1,795 surface water rights exists within this reach. A list of these rights can be found in the administrative file and is available upon request.

Why this is an appropriate Area of Potential Impact: The inlet of Flathead Lake was chosen as the upstream extent of the AOPI to account for all existing water users with diversions out of the lake. SKQ Dam was chosen as the downstream extent of the AOPI because it is the control structure for water discharging from Flathead Lake. Diversion of water from Flathead Lake will reduce the total flow and volume of water discharging from the lake (passing over or through the dam).

Methodology: The Department considered the source characteristics of the Flathead River system (including Flathead Lake) and of the Seli'š Ksanka Qlispe' Dam, which controls the flow of water discharging from Flathead Lake when determining an appropriate AOPI.

Review
This document has been reviewed by the Department on November 19, 2025

References
Department Standard Practice for Determining Physical Availability of Surface Water
Department Standard Practice for Area of Potential Impact Analysis

****

Appendix A: Water Rights within the Area of Potential Impact

Due to the large size of the list of water rights within the AOPI, the list is contained in the administrative file for this preapplication and is available as an excel spreadsheet upon request.

Excel File Placeholder

The Appendix A: Water Rights within the Area of Potential Impact spreadsheet is available outside of the application file.

Please contact the regional office for more information.

Preapplication Materials

- Preapplication Meeting Request
- Preapplication Meeting Form
- All attachments
- All correspondence prior to application receipt

Preapplication Materials

PREAPPLICATION MEETING FORM: PART B
PERMIT

§ 85-2-302, MCA

Form No. 600P-B *(Revised 02/2025)*

For Department Use Only

Application # 30172157 Basin 76LJ

Form Received UP

Fee Rec'd $ 500.00 Check # 5012

Deposit Receipt # KLW2607559

Payor Core Water Consulting Inc.

Form Returned _____

Refund $ _____ Date _____

RECEIVED
DNRC Water Resources
OCT 31 2025
Kalispell Unit

PREAPPLICATION MEETING FEE

$ 500

FILING FEE REDUCTION & EXPEDITED TIMELINE

An application will be eligible for a filing fee reduction and expedited timelines if the Applicant completes a preapplication meeting with the Department (ARM 36.12.1302(1)), which includes submitting any follow-up information identified by the Department (ARM 36.12.1302(3)(c)) and receiving either Department-completed technical analyses or Department review of Applicant-submitted technical analyses (ARM 36.12.1302(4) and (5)). An application for the proposed project also must be submitted within 180 days of delivery of Department technical analyses or scientific credibility review and no element on the submitted application can be changed from the completed preapplication meeting form (ARM 36.12.1302(6)).

The Applicant is responsible for providing a "Follow-up Responses" document for all follow-up identified in Preapplication Meeting Form Part A (Form 600P-A). The Applicant may not alter Form 600P-A. If a response has changed to a question answered at the preapplication meeting, the Applicant can provide a new response in a separate document entitled "Amended Responses" with the question number labeled.

The following guidelines are applicable to both the "Follow-up Responses" and "Amended Responses" documents. Clearly label all question numbers. Answer questions in the same format as Form 600P-A. For responses in the form of checkboxes, write "Y", "N", or "S". Constrain narrative responses to the specific question as is asked on the form; do not respond to multiple questions in one narrative. Label units in narrative responses and tables. Tables must have the exact headings found on the form. Questions that require items to be submitted to the Department may be marked "S" when the required item is included with the document.

1. ☐ **Y** ■ **N** Are you submitting this form in response to a determination by the Department that a previously submitted Form 600P-B was inadequately completed?

If yes,

a. Date form was returned ("Form Returned" date found in "For Department Use Only" box on the previously submitted Form 600P-B): _____

b. If a "Follow-up Responses" or "Amended Responses" document is required by questions 2 or 3, submit complete updated documents with responses that stand-alone. The Department will only use the most recently submitted "Follow-up Responses" and "Amended Responses" documents for departmental technical analyses or scientific credibility review; the Department will not use multiple versions of a document.

2. ☐ **Y** ■ **N** Were any questions identified as requiring follow-up on Form 600P-A?

If yes,

a. ☐ **S** Submit "Follow-up Responses" document for all questions requiring follow-up.

3. ☐ Y ■ N Are you submitting amended responses to any questions from Form 600P-A?

If yes,

a. **☐ S** Submit “Amended Responses” document and record in the table below each question number with an amended response. The amended response will entirely replace the previous response; the amended response cannot build off the previous response.

Question No.	Question No.	Question No.	Question No.

FOLLOW-UP AND AMENDED RESPONSES AFFIDAVIT & CERTIFICATION

"I attest that this preapplication meeting form (Form 600P-A and Form 600P-B), follow-up, and amended responses accurately portray the proposed project. I am aware that my application for this project will not qualify for a discounted filing fee and expedited timelines if, upon submittal of the application to the department, I change any element of the proposed application from the preapplication meeting form, amended responses, or follow-up materials (ARM 36.12.1302(6)(a))."

Applicant Signature — Date: 8/26/25

Applicant Signature — Date

"We confirm that the preapplication form (Form 600P-A and Form 600P-B), amended responses, and follow-up information are adequate for the Department to proceed with technical analyses in ARM 36.12.1303. Or, if the Applicant has elected to complete technical analyses, we confirm they have submitted each required element of technical analysis based on the proposed project and the Department is able to proceed with the scientific credibility review (ARM 36.12.1303(8))."

Department Signature — Date: 10/31/25

Department Signature — Date

PREAPPLICATION MEETING FORM: PART A

PERMIT

§ 85-2-302, MCA

Form No. 600P-A *(Revised 03/2025)*

For Department Use Only

Application # 30172157 Basin # 76LJ

Meeting Date 10/28/2025 Time 13:00

Variance Request Deadline 03/15/2026

Completed Form Deadline 04/26/2026

RECEIVED
30 OCT 2025
DNRC
KALISPELL WATER RESOURCES

PREAPPLICATION MEETING FEE

$ 500

FILING FEE REDUCTION & EXPEDITED TIMELINE

An application will be eligible for a filing fee reduction and expedited timelines if the applicant completes a preapplication meeting with the Department (ARM 36.12.1302(1)), which includes submitting any follow-up information identified by the Department (ARM 36.12.1302(3)(c)) and receiving either Department-completed technical analyses or Department review of applicant-submitted technical analyses (ARM 36.12.1302(4) and (5)). An application for the proposed project also must be submitted within 180 days of delivery of Department technical analyses or scientific credibility review and no element on the submitted application can be changed from the completed preapplication meeting form (ARM 36.12.1302(6)).

The Department will fill out Permit Preapplication Meeting Form Part A (Form 600P-A) and will identify items for follow-up during the preapplication meeting. The Department and Applicant will sign the Preapplication Meeting Affidavit and Certification within 10 business days. Within 180 days of the preapplication meeting, the Applicant will complete Preapplication Meeting Form Part B (Form 600P-B), including identified follow-up, any amended responses, and Follow-up and Amended Responses Affidavit & Certification. Variance requests must be submitted on Form 653 to the Department on or before the Variance Request Deadline, which is day 138 of the 180 day-deadline for a completed preapplication meeting form. Form 653 may be submitted earlier than the Variance Request Deadline. The Department has 30 business days to process the Form 653.

Applicant Information: *Add more as necessary.*

Applicant Name Blake Whitney Thompson Revocable Trust
Mailing Address 22581 MT HWY 35 City Bigfork State MT Zip 59911
Phone Numbers: Home _____ Work _____ Cell 727-251-7707
Email Address bthompson@blakeip.com

Applicant Name _____
Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone Numbers: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____
Email Address _____

Contact/Representative Information: *Add more as necessary.*

Contact/Representative is: ☐ Applicant ☑ Consultant ☐ Attorney ☐ Other (describe) _____
Contact/Representative Name Mikel Siemens, PE; Core Water Consulting
Mailing Address 490 E Montana Street, Suite 22 City Kalispell State MT Zip 59901
Phone Numbers: Home _____ Work 406-890-2073 Cell _____
Email Address mikel@corewaterconsulting.com

NOTE: *If a contact person is identified as an attorney, all communication will be sent only to the attorney unless the attorney provides written instruction to the contrary (ARM 36.12.122(2)). If a contact person is identified as a consultant, employee, or lessee, the applicant will receive all correspondences, and a copy may be sent to the contact person (ARM 36.12.122(3)).*

Meeting Attendees: *Add more as necessary.*

Name	Role	Name	Role
James Ferch	DNRC - KRO Manager		
Travis Wilson	DNRC - KRO Water Resource Specialist		
Christy Teska	Core Water Consulting - Applicant Representative		

Table of Contents

APPLICATION DETAILS

The following questions are mandatory and must be filled out before the Preapplication Meeting Form is determined to be complete. Narrative responses that are larger than the space provided can be answered in an attachment. If an attachment is used, mark the see attachment ("A") checkbox on this form and label the attachment with the question number. Constrain narrative responses to the specific question as is asked on the form; do not respond to multiple questions in one narrative. Responses in the form of a table may be entered into the table provided on this form or in an attachment. If an attachment is used, the table must have the exact headings found on this form, and the see attachment ("A") checkbox must be marked. Label units in narrative responses and tables. Questions that require Applicant to submit items to the Department have a submitted ("S") checkbox, which is marked when the required item is attached to the Preapplication Meeting Form. Label all submitted items with the question number for which they were submitted. For all questions where follow-up is necessary, mark the "F" checkbox in the "Follow-Up" column and write the question number on the "Follow-Up Page".

S = Submitted. *Use when required item is included with form.*

A = See attachment. *Use when additional space is needed to answer a question.*

F = Follow-up. *Use when follow-up is necessary.*

Questions, Narrative Responses, and Tables	**Check-boxes**	**Follow-up**
1. Do you elect to have DNRC conduct Technical Analyses?	■ Y ☐ N	☐ F
2. Provide a map created on an aerial photograph or topographic map that shows the following: section corners, township and range, scale bar, north arrow, all proposed points of diversion labeled with a unique POD ID number (include GWIC ID, if available, for wells), all proposed places of use, all proposed conveyance structures (including ditches and pipelines), all proposed places of storage, and places of use for all overlapping water rights. More than one map may be submitted, if necessary to clearly convey all required information.	■ S	☐ F
3. Is the project located in a Controlled Groundwater Area or Basin Closure Area? If yes, immediately go to Mandatory Project-Specific questions 54 to 56 because Form 600 may be the incorrect form, or this project may not meet the requirements for the Department to accept a Form 600.	☐ Y ■ N	☐ F
4. Is the proposed use temporary?	☐ Y ■ N	☐ F
a. If yes, when will the appropriation cease? _____	☐ A	☐ F

5. Describe the proposed purpose information, including period of diversion (MM/DD-MM/DD), period of use (MM/DD-MM/DD), flow rate (GPM or CFS) and volume (AF).

☒ A ☐ F

Purpose	Period of Diversion	Period of Use	Flow Rate			Volume
	(MM/DD-MM/DD)	*(MM/DD-MM/DD)*	*Flow Rate*	*GPM*	*CFS*	*(AF)*
Irrigation	04/15-10/15	04/15-10/15	20	☑	☐	2.89
				☐	☐	
				☐	☐	
				☐	☐	
				☐	☐	
		Total	20	☑	☐	2.89

6. Does the proposed use include one or more of the following purposes: domestic, multiple domestic, stock, or irrigation? If yes, fill out the following table, where applicable.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ F

Purpose	Requested Information	Response
Domestic or multiple domestic	Number of dwellings	
Stock	Number of animal units	
Irrigation	Method of irrigation type (sprinkler or flood) and subtype (if flood: level border, graded border, furrow, contour ditch, or other; if sprinkler: center pivot, wheel line, or other)	Sprinkler (Nelson R5 Rotators)
Irrigation (flood only)	Design slope	

7. Describe the proposed location of the point(s) diversion to the nearest 10 acres, if source is groundwater (GW) or surface water (SW), source name, and means of diversion (e.g., pump, headgate, well). Label each POD with the POD # used for the project map (question 2).

☒ A ☐ F

POD #	¼	¼	¼	Sec	Twp	Rge	County	Lot	Block	Tract	Subdivision	Gov Lot	SW or GW	Source Name	Means
1	SW	NE	SE	29	25N	19W	Lake					3	SW	Flathead Lake	Pump

8. What are the geocodes of the place of use?	☒ A	☐ F

15-3584-29-4-01-04-0000	

9. Describe the legal land description for the proposed place of use and, if an irrigation or lawn and garden purpose, list the number of irrigated acres.	☒ A	☐ F

Acres	Gov't Lot	Block	¼	¼	¼	Sec	Twp	Rge	County
1.2	3		SE	NE	SE	29	25N	19W	Lake
1.2	***Total***								

10. Will other water rights supplement or overlap the place of use to contribute to the purpose(s)?	☒ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, summarize how the water rights will be operated as a whole to serve the purpose(s). Form 602 has been submitted to DNRC for the existing well (GWIC 282919) to obtain a certificate of water right for groundwater use which will continue to serve the residences and associated lawn and garden and be a backup for irrigation if a call is made.	☐ A	☐ F

11. For each supplemental or overlapping water right, please list the water right number, purpose, typical period of diversion and use (MM/DD-MM/DD), flow rate (GPM or CFS), and the volume of water (AF) contributed.	☐ A	☐ F

Water Right No.	Avg. Period of Diversion	Avg. Period of Use	Flow Rate			Volume Contributed
	MM/DD-MM/DD	*MM/DD-MM/DD*	*Flow Rate*	*GPM*	*CFS*	*AF*
Not yet assigned	01/01-12/31	01/01-12/31	16	☑	☐	4
				☐	☐	
				☐	☐	
				☐	☐	
				☐	☐	

12. Will this application supplement contract water from a Federal Project, ditch company, or other source?	☐ Y ▬ N	☐ F
a. If yes, explain. _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
13. Does the project involve one or more places of storage? This does not include reservoirs, pits, pit-dams, or ponds with a capacity less than 0.1 AF; water tanks; or cisterns (ARM 36.12.113(6)). If yes, answer the following questions once for each place of storage. Use an "Additional Place of Storage (600P)" sheet if more than one. Additionally, you may choose to answer non-mandatory questions 76 to 80 for place of storage.	☐ Y ▣ N	☐ F
a. Is this application to enlarge an existing reservoir? If yes, list the water right numbers for the existing reservoir. _____	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
b. Is the place of storage located on-stream?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
c. What is the capacity of the proposed place of storage or the existing place of storage after it is enlarged? Use bathymetry data, survey, or engineering plans for capacity. Submit the data source used with this form. In lieu of these data sources, use the following equation: *Surface Acres x Maximum Depth (FT) x 0.5 = Capacity (AF)* _____	☐ A	☐ F

d. What is the surface area of the place of storage? _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
14. Will your system be designed to discharge water from the project?	☐ Y ▬ N	☐ F
a. If yes, explain the wastewater disposal method. A discharge permit may be required to comply with §§ 75-5-410 and 85-2-364, MCA. _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
15. Does the project involve an appropriation that is greater than 5.5 CFS and 4,000 AF? If yes, you must submit a Criteria Addendum Application for Beneficial Water Use Permit for Appropriations Greater than 5.5 CFS and 4,000 AF (Form 600-B) with application submittal. The criteria are found in §85-2-311(3), MCA.	☐ Y ▬ N	☐ F
16. Will you be transporting water for use outside of Montana? If yes, you must submit an Out-of-State Use Addendum (Form 600/606-OSA) with the application. The out-of-state use criteria are outlined in §85-2-402(6), MCA.	☐ Y ▬ N	☐ F
17. Does the project include the water marketing purpose? If yes, you may choose to answer non-mandatory questions 81 to 85 for water marketing. A Water Marketing Purpose Addendum (Form 600/606-WMA) will be required with application submittal.	☐ Y ▬ N	☐ F
18. Are you proposing a point of diversion and/or place of use on State of Montana Trust Land? If yes, documentation of consent from the DNRC Trust Lands Management Division will be required at application submittal.	☐ Y ▬ N	☐ F
19. Is the project located in designated sage grouse habitat? If yes, a review letter from the Montana Sage Grouse Habitat Conservation Program will be required at application submittal.	☐ Y ▬ N	☐ F

SURFACE WATER

■ **Applicable**, move on to question 20. ☐ **Not Applicable**, skip to question 30.

The following questions are mandatory for surface water permit applications and must be filled out before the Preapplication Meeting Form is determined to be complete.

Surface Water Analysis

Questions, Narrative Responses, and Tables	**Check-boxes**	**Follow-up**
20. What is the flow rate (GPM or CFS), volume (AF), period of diversion start date and end date (MM/DD-MM/DD), and source type (e.g., perennial, ephemeral) at each point of diversion? Use the same POD # as the project map (question 2) to label each point of diversion.	■ A	☐ F

POD #	**Flow Rate**			**Volume**	**Period Start**	**Period End**
	Flow Rate	*GPM*	*CFS*	*AF*	*MM/DD*	*MM/DD*
1	20	☑	☐	2.89	04/15	10/15
		☐	☐			
		☐	☐			
		☐	☐			
		☐	☐			

21. Is the source type of the diversion perennial or intermittent, ephemeral, lake, or other? Perennial	■ A	☐ F

Perennial or intermittent	Answer questions 22 to 25	**Ephemeral**	Answer question 26	**Lake**	Answer question 27	**Other**	Answer questions 28 to 29

Surface Water Analysis: Perennial or Intermittent

■ **Applicable** ☐ **Not Applicable**

22. Are stream gage data available?	▣ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, answer question 23.		
b. If no, answer question 24.		

23. Stream gage data are available.		
a. Is one stream gage located above the most upstream POD and one stream gage located below the most upstream POD?	☐ Y ■ N	☐ F
i. If no, is only one stream gage located near the most upstream POD?	■ Y ☐ N	☐ F
1. If yes, is the stream gage located upstream or downstream? downstream		☐ F
b. List the gage name(s). Write “N/A” for Gage 2 if one gage is available. Gage 1: USGS 12372000 - Flathead River near Polson, MT Gage 2: NA		☐ F
c. What is the distance between the gage(s) and the most upstream POD? Write “N/A” for Gage 2 if one gage is available. Gage 1: ~21 miles Gage 2: NA		☐ F
d. Is there a limiting or controlling factor on the source between the stream gage(s) and the most upstream POD? This includes dams that control the flow and streams with large gaining and/or losing reaches. If you have questions about this, the Regional Office may provide assistance.	■ Y ☐ N	☐ F
i. If yes, explain. SKQ Dam	☐ A	☐ F
e. How long is the period of record? Write “N/A” for Gage 2 if one gage is available. Gage 1: >10 years Gage 2: NA		☐ F
f. Who operates and maintains the gage(s)? Write “N/A” for Gage 2 if one gage is available. Gage 1: USGS Gage 2: NA		☐ F

g. Is each available stream gage operated and maintained by USGS or DNRC?	■ Y ☐ N	☐ F
i. If yes, skip to question 23.h.		
ii. If no, answer the following questions for each gage not operated and maintained by USGS or DNRC.		
1. How frequently are stage data recorded? Write "N/A" for Gage 2 if only one gage is not operated or maintained by USGS. Gage 1: _____ Gage 2: _____		☐ F
2. If data gaps were to occur, are they identified and left unfilled or estimated using interpolation, ice correction, or indirect discharge measurements methods?		
a. Gage 1._____	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
b. Gage 2. Write "N/A" on the line instead of answering yes or no, if only one gage is not operated or maintained by USGS or DNRC. _____	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
3. Was the rating curve established and maintained throughout the duration of the period of record using measurements taken near the reference gage and stage recorder according to USGS protocols?		
a. Gage 1._____	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
b. Gage 2. Write "N/A" on the line instead of answering yes or no, if only one gage is not operated or maintained by USGS or DNRC. _____	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
4. Were requirements established and followed for maintaining a permanent gage datum and meeting specified accuracy limits?		
a. Gage 1._____	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
b. Gage 2. Write "N/A" on the line instead of answering yes or no, if only one gage is not operated or maintained by USGS or DNRC. _____	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F

h. Do the data for one or more available stream gages meet the Department's standard to be sufficient to calculate the median of the mean monthly flow rate and volume during the proposed months of diversion?	■ Y ☐ N	☐ F
i. If yes, record how many meet the standard, then skip to question 54 because this section is complete. One		☐ F
ii. If no, answer question 24.		
24. If no gage data are available or if available gage data do not meet the Department's standard to be sufficient to calculate the median of the mean monthly flow rate and volume during the proposed months of diversion, is the source otherwise measured?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If no, measurements may be necessary. The Department cannot deem the preapplication meeting form adequately completed until the Department receives gage data and/or measurements that meet the requirements of ARM 36.12.1702 or, in combination with an approved variance request, are sufficient to complete any necessary technical analyses or scientific credibility reviews and to evaluate the applicable criteria. Skip to question 25.		
b. If yes,		
i. Submit available measurements to the Department.	☐ S	☐ F
ii. Who collected the measurements?	☐ A	☐ F
iii. With what method were the data collected?	☐ A	☐ F
iv. What is the period of record?		☐ F
v. What is the frequency of measurement?		☐ F
vi. Are there gaps in the data?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F

1. If yes, what is the nature of the gaps and how are gaps handled to ensure data quality? _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
vii. Is there a process for maintaining the data and meeting specified accuracy limits?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
1. If yes, explain. _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
viii. Do available measurement data meet the Department's standard to be sufficient to calculate the median of the mean monthly flow rate and volume during the proposed months of diversion?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
1. If yes, this section is complete. Skip to question 54.		
2. If no, answer question 25.		
25. Do the available measurement data, gage and/or otherwise measured, meet the Department's standard of including a minimum of high, moderate, and low flows to be sufficient to use for validation of a Department-accepted estimation technique?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes,		
i. Describe how the measurements are representative of high, moderate, and low flows. _____ _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
ii. Describe the estimation technique. _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
b. If no, but a Department-accepted estimation technique will be appropriate for the source:		

i. Will measurements be collected prior to submission of Form 600P-B that meet the Department's standard of including a minimum of high, moderate, and low flows to be sufficient to use for calibration of a Department-accepted estimation technique?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
1. If yes,		
a. With what method will the data be collected? _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
b. What will be the interval of measurement? _____		☐ F
c. Describe the proposed estimation technique. _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
2. If no, do you plan on requesting a variance from measurement requirements pursuant to ARM 36.12.1702(1)(b)? If you plan to request a variance, you must submit Form 653 on or before the Variance Request Deadline. The Department cannot deem the preapplication meeting form adequately completed until the Department receives measurements that meet the requirements of ARM 36.12.1702(1)(b) or, in combination with an approved variance request, are sufficient to complete any necessary technical analyses or scientific credibility reviews and to evaluate the applicable criteria.	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
c. If no, because no Department-accepted estimation technique will be appropriate for the source:		
i. Describe why no Department-accepted estimation technique is appropriate for the source characteristics. _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
ii. Do the available measurement data, gage and/or otherwise measured, meet the Department's standard for monthly measurements throughout the proposed period of diversion pursuant to ARM 36.12.1702(4)?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F

1. If no, will measurements be collected prior to submission of a completed Form 600P that meet the Department's standard of monthly measurements throughout the proposed period of diversion?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, with what method will the data be collected? _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
b. If no, do you plan on requesting a variance from measurement requirements pursuant to ARM 36.12.1702(4)? If you plan to request a variance, you must submit Form 653 on or before the Variance Request Deadline. The Department cannot deem the preapplication meeting form adequately completed until the Department receives measurements that meet the requirements of ARM 36.12.1702(4) or, in combination with an approved variance request, are sufficient to complete any necessary technical analyses or scientific credibility reviews and to evaluate the applicable criteria.	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F

Surface Water Analysis: Ephemeral

☐ **Applicable** ⬓ **Not Applicable**

26. Did you elect for the Department to conduct the Technical Analyses?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, do you have climate or drainage area data you would like the Department to consider during Technical Analyses?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
i. If yes, submit this information to the Department.	☐ S	☐ F
b. If no,		
i. Describe the estimation technique you propose to use to estimate physical availability at the point of diversion. _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
ii. What is the net annual precipitation? Include the source of this information. _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F

iii. What is the drainage area upstream of the point of diversion and how was this figure calculated? _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F

Surface Water Analysis: Lakes

☐ **Applicable** ■ **Not Applicable**

27. Has the lake volume been quantified by a qualified entity based on bathymetric data?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, provide this information to DNRC.	☐ S	☐ F
b. If no, answer the following questions,		
i. When do you plan to collect this information? _____		☐ F
ii. What data collection method will you use? _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F

Surface Water Analysis: Other

☐ **Applicable** ■ **Not Applicable**

28. Explain why the source type is “other”. _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
29. Have you measured the source?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, answer the following questions,		
i. With what method was the measurement data collected? _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F

ii. What is the measurement interval? _____		☐ F
1. Does the interval meet the Department's standard for monthly measurements throughout the proposed period of diversion pursuant to ARM 36.12.1702(4)?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If no, do you plan on requesting a variance from measurement requirements pursuant to ARM 36.12.1702(4)? If you plan to request a variance, you must submit Form 653 on or before the Variance Request Deadline.	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
b. If no,		
i. When do you plan to measure? _____		☐ F
ii. What data collection method will be used? _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
iii. Do you plan on requesting a variance from measurement requirements pursuant to ARM 36.12.1702(4)? If you plan to request a variance, you must submit Form 653 on or before the Variance Request Deadline. The Department cannot deem the preapplication meeting form adequately completed until the Department receives measurements that meet the requirements of ARM 36.12.1702(4) or, in combination with an approved variance request, are sufficient to complete any necessary technical analyses or scientific credibility reviews and to evaluate the applicable criteria.	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F

Area of Potential Impact Analysis

No additional information needed for Technical Analyses.

GROUNDWATER

☐ **Applicable**, move on to question 30. ▣ **Not Applicable**, skip to question 54.

The following questions are mandatory for groundwater permit applications and must be filled out before the Preapplication Meeting Form is determined to be complete.

Groundwater Analysis for Permits

Questions, Narrative Responses, and Tables	**Check-boxes**	**Follow-up**
30. What is the type of groundwater diversion? _____	☐ A	☐ F

Well/Pumping Pit	Answer questions 31 to 35	**Developed Spring**	Answer question 36	**Pond**	Answer questions 37 to 39

Groundwater Analysis for Permits: Well/Pumping Pit

☐ Applicable ☐ Not Applicable

31. Per ARM 36.12.121 a 24- or 72-hour aquifer test is required; do you propose not to conduct the test? An 8-hour test will be required, if no aquifer test is completed.	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, explain. The Department will let you know if the request is reasonable and identify additional data needs. _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F

32. Submit Aquifer Test Data Form (Form 633). If a variance is requested, Form 633 must be submitted on or before the Variance Request Deadline. If no variance is requested, Form 633 is due by the time the preapplication meeting form is complete but may be submitted earlier. However, if the Department determines a variance is needed and the Variance Request Deadline has passed, to submit the Form 653 you must reschedule the preapplication meeting or submit the application without expedited fees and timelines (ARM 36.12.1302(6)).	☐ S	☐ F
33. Submit the Aquifer Testing Addendum (Form 600/606-ATA) and associated materials (e.g., well logs). If you request a variance, Form 600/606-ATA must be submitted on or before the Variance Request Deadline. If no variance is requested, Form 600/606-ATA is due by the time the preapplication meeting form is complete but may be submitted earlier. However, if the Department determines a variance is needed and the Variance Request Deadline has passed, to submit the Form 653 you must reschedule the preapplication meeting or submit the application without expedited fees and timelines (ARM 36.12.1302(6)).	☐ S	☐ F
34. Are you requesting a variance from ARM 36.12.121? If you are unsure if a variance request will be needed, mark follow-up and answer this question once Form 600/606-ATA and Form 633 are complete. A variance must be requested by the Variance Request Deadline.	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, submit Form 653, Form 600/606-ATA, and Form 633 together on or before the Variance Request Deadline.	☐ S	☐ F
b. If no, you may choose to submit Form 600/606-ATA and Form 633 before the Variance Request Deadline, and the Department will review these two forms. However, if the Department determines a variance is needed after the Variance Request Deadline, to submit the Form 653 you must reschedule the preapplication meeting or submit the application without expedited fees and timelines (ARM 36.12.1302(6)).		
35. Have all proposed wells/pumping pits been constructed?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If no, answer the following questions:		
i. Submit a list of the POD IDs for all wells/pumping pits and mark whether they have or have not been constructed.	☐ S	☐ F
ii. When will all proposed wells/pumping pits be constructed? _____		☐ F
iii. Is the requested volume for each proposed well/pumping pit known?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
1. If yes, list the flow rate and volume requested for each proposed well/pumping pit. Label with POD ID. _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F

2. If no, what is the total requested volume (AF) and the number of proposed PODs? _____		☐ F

Groundwater Analysis for Permits: Developed Spring

☐ Applicable ☐ Not Applicable

36. Have you measured the source?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, submit the measurements and answer the following questions,	☐ S	☐ F
i. Do you have flow rate (GPM or CFS) and volume measurements?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
ii. With what method were measurements collected? _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
iii. What is the interval of measurements? _____		☐ F
iv. Is the interval of measurements sufficient to comply with ARM 36.12.1703(1)?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
b. If no, or if measurements do not comply with ARM 36.12.1703(1), answer the following questions. The Department cannot deem the preapplication meeting form adequately completed until the Department receives measurements that meet the requirements of ARM 36.12.1703(1). Variances from ARM 36.12.1703(1) are not allowed.		
i. When do you plan to measure? _____		☐ F
ii. With what method and at what interval will measurements be collected? _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F

Groundwater Analysis for Permits: Pond

☐ Applicable ☐ Not Applicable

37. Submit Form 653 to apply for a variance from ARM 36.12.121 for the Aquifer Test on or before the Variance Request Deadline.	☐ S	☐ F
38. Submit pond bathymetry data, survey, or engineering plans to the Department.	☐ S	☐ F
39. Is the pond fed or drained by surface water?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes,		
i. Explain. _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
ii. Submit measurements of the connected surface water source. These may include inflow and outflow measurements.	☐ S	☐ F

Surface Water Depletion Analysis

40. Is the type of groundwater diversion for your proposed project a developed spring? If yes, skip to question 45 because this section is complete. If no, move onto question 41.	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
41. Is the type of groundwater diversion for your proposed project a pond? If yes, answer question 41.a, then skip to question 45 because this section is complete. If no, move onto question 42.	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. Will any of the ponds have diversions for out-of-pond use that differ from, if year-round use, an allocation of diverted volume by the number of days in the month, or, if irrigation/lawn and garden use, the 80% dry year net irrigation requirement (IWR, NRCS 2003)?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
i. If yes, provide a schedule of the diversions for out-of-pond use in the table below. Use the same POD # as the project map (question 2). Attach any additional schedules with POD # labeled.	☐ A	☐ F

POD #			
Month	**Diversions for Out-of-Pond Use Volume (AF)**	**Month**	**Diversions for Out-of-Pond Use Volume (AF)**
January		July	
February		August	
March		September	
April		October	
May		November	
June		December	

42. What is the flow rate (GPM or CFS), volume (AF), and period of diversion required (MM/DD-MM/DD) at each well/pumping pit? What is the well/pumping pit depth (FT), if available, or estimated well/pumping pit depth (FT). Please use the same POD # as the project map (question 2) to match this information with the location information.	☐ A	☐ F

POD #	Flow Rate			Volume	Period of Diversion	Depth	Measured or Estimated
	Flow Rate	*GPM*	*CFS*	*AF*	*MM/DD-MM/DD*	*FT*	
		☐	☐				
		☐	☐				
		☐	☐				
		☐	☐				
		☐	☐				

43. Will any of the *new* wells/pumping pits have a monthly pumping schedule that differs from, if year-round use, an allocation of diverted volume by the number of days in the month, or, if irrigation/lawn and garden use, the 80% dry year net irrigation requirement (IWR, NRCS 2003)?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, provide the alternative pumping schedule(s) in the table below. Use the same POD # as the project map (question 2). Attach any additional pumping schedules with POD # labeled.	☐ A	☐ F

POD #				POD #			
Month	**Volume (AF)**	**Month**	**Volume (AF)**	**Month**	**Volume (AF)**	**Month**	**Volume (AF)**
January		July		January		July	
February		August		February		August	
March		September		March		September	
April		October		April		October	
May		November		May		November	
June		December		June		December	

44. Will one or more *existing* wells/pumping pits be used for the proposed project?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, will any of the *existing* wells/pumping pits have a monthly pumping schedule, before or after the proposed project, that differs from an allocation of diverted volume by the number of days in the month (if year-round use) or the 80% dry year net irrigation requirement (if irrigation/lawn and garden use) (IWR, NRCS 2003)?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
i. If yes, provide the pumping schedules before and after the proposed project in the table below. Use the same POD # as the project map (question 2). Attach any additional pumping schedules with POD # and before/after proposed project labeled.	☐ A	☐ F

Before proposed project: POD #				**After proposed project: POD #**			
Month	**Volume (AF)**	**Month**	**Volume (AF)**	**Month**	**Volume (AF)**	**Month**	**Volume (AF)**
January		July		January		July	
February		August		February		August	
March		September		March		September	
April		October		April		October	
May		November		May		November	
June		December		June		December	

Surface Water Analysis of Depleted Surface Water

45. Based on the preliminary net depletion data provided by the Department at this preapplication meeting, what are the hydraulically connected surface water source(s)? **Net depletion data provided by the Department at the preapplication meeting is preliminary and is subject to change during Technical Analyses. If the source or location of net depletion data changes during Technical Analyses, then surface water analysis of depleted surface water source(s) will reflect the Technical Analyses; this will not constitute a change of any element to the proposed application pursuant to ARM 36.12.1302(6)(a).* If the type of groundwater diversion for your proposed project is a developed spring, write "NA" and skip to question 51 because this section is complete. _____	☐ A	☐ F
46. Answer the questions in this section one time for each hydraulically connected source. Use the "Additional Hydraulically Connected Source (600P)" sheet, as necessary. For which hydraulically connected source are you answering questions 47 to 50? _____		☐ F
47. Are stream gage data available?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, answer question 48.		
b. If no, answer question 49.		

48. Stream gage data are available		
a. Is one stream gage located above and one stream gage located below the start of the depleted reach?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
i. If no, is only one stream gage located near the start of the depleted reach?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
1. If yes, is the stream gage upstream or downstream? _____		☐ F
b. List the gage name(s). Write "N/A" for Gage 2 if one gage available. Gage 1: _____ Gage 2: _____		☐ F
c. What is the distance between the gage(s) and the start of the depleted reach? Write "N/A" for Gage 2 if one gage available. Gage 1: _____ Gage 2: _____		☐ F
d. Is there a limiting or controlling factor on the source between the stream gage(s) and the start of the depleted reach? This includes dams that control the flow and streams with large gaining and/or losing reaches. If you have questions about this, the Regional Office may provide assistance.	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
i. If yes, explain. _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
e. How long is the period of record? Write "N/A" for Gage 2 if one gage is available. Gage 1: _____ Gage 2: _____		☐ F
f. Who operates and maintains the gage(s)? Write "N/A" for Gage 2 if one gage is available. Gage 1: _____ Gage 2: _____		☐ F
g. Is each available stream gage operated and maintained by USGS or DNRC?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
i. If yes, skip to question 48.h.		
ii. If no, answer the following questions for each gage not operated and maintained by USGS or DNRC.		

1. How frequently is stage data recorded? Write "N/A" for Gage 2 if only one gage is not operated or maintained by USGS. Gage 1: _____ Gage 2: _____		☐ F
2. If data gaps were to occur, are they identified and left unfilled or estimated using interpolation, ice correction, or indirect discharge measurements methods?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. Gage 1._____	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
b. Gage 2. Write "N/A" on the line instead of answering yes or no, if only one gage is not operated or maintained by USGS or DNRC. _____	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
3. Was the rating curve established and maintained throughout the duration of the period of record using measurements taken near the reference gage and stage recorder according to USGS protocols?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. Gage 1._____	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
b. Gage 2. Write "N/A" on the line instead of answering yes or no, if only one gage is not operated or maintained by USGS or DNRC. _____	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
4. Were there requirements for maintaining a permanent gage datum and meeting specified accuracy limits?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. Gage 1._____	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
b. Gage 2. Write "N/A" on the line instead of answering yes or no, if only one gage is not operated or maintained by USGS or DNRC. _____	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
h. Do the data for one or more available stream gages meet the Department's standard to be sufficient to calculate the median of the mean monthly flow rate and volume during the months with net depletions?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
i. If yes, record how many meet the standard, then skip to question 54 because this section is complete. _____		
ii. If no, answer question 49.		
49. If no gage data are available or if available gage data do not meet the Department's standard to be sufficient to calculate the median of the mean monthly flow rate and volume during the months with net depletions, is the source otherwise measured?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F

a. If no, measurements may be necessary. The Department cannot deem the preapplication meeting form adequately completed until the Department receives gage data and/or measurements that meet the Department's measurement standards or, in combination with an approved request to deviate from the Department's standards, are sufficient to complete any necessary technical analyses or scientific credibility reviews and to evaluate the applicable criteria. Skip to question 50.		
b. If yes,		
i. Submit measurements to the Department.	☐ S	☐ F
ii. Who collected the measurements? _____	☐ A	☐ F
iii. With what method was the data collected? _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
iv. What is the period of record? _____		☐ F
v. What is the frequency of measurement? _____		☐ F
vi. Are there gaps in the data?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
1. If yes, what is the nature of the gaps and how are gaps handled to ensure data quality? _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
vii. Is there a process for maintaining the data and meeting specified accuracy limits?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
1. If yes, explain. _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
viii. Do available measurement data meet the Department's standard to be sufficient to calculate the median of the mean monthly flow rate and volume during the months with net depletions?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
1. If yes, this section is complete. Skip to question 54.		
2. If no, answer question 50.		

50. Do the available measurement data, gage and/or otherwise measured, meet the Department's standard of including a minimum of high, moderate, and low flows to be sufficient to use for calibration of a Department-accepted estimation technique?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes,		
i. Describe how the measurements are representative of high, moderate, and low flows. _____ _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
ii. Describe the estimation technique. _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
b. If no, but a Department-accepted estimation technique will be appropriate for the hydraulically connected surface water source:		
i. Will measurements be collected prior to submission of a completed Form 600P-B that meet the Department's standard of including a minimum of high, moderate, and low flows to be sufficient to use for calibration of a Department-accepted estimation technique?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
1. If yes,		
a. With what method will the data be collected? _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
b. What will be the interval of measurement? _____		☐ F

c. Describe the proposed estimation technique. _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
2. If no, do you plan on requesting to deviate from the Department's standard of including a minimum of high, moderate, and low flows to be sufficient to use for calibration of a Department-accepted estimation technique? The Department's technical analyses or scientific credibility review of your technical analyses cannot commence until the Department receives measurements that meet Department measurement standards, or in combination with a request to deviate, are sufficient to complete any necessary technical analyses or scientific credibility reviews and to evaluate the applicable criteria.	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
c. If no, because no Department-accepted estimation technique will be appropriate for the hydraulically connected surface water source:		
i. Describe why no Department-accepted estimation technique is appropriate for the source characteristics. _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
ii. Do the available measurement data, gage and/or otherwise measured, meet the Department's standard for monthly measurements throughout the months with net depletions?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
1. If no, will measurements be collected prior to submission of a completed Form 600P that meet the Department's standard of monthly measurements throughout the months with net depletions?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, with what method will the data be collected? _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F

b. If no, do you plan on requesting to deviate from the Department's standard for monthly measurements throughout the months with net depletions? The Department's technical analyses or scientific credibility review of your technical analyses cannot commence until the Department receives measurements that meet Department measurement standards, or in combination with a request to deviate, are sufficient to complete any necessary technical analyses or scientific credibility reviews and to evaluate the applicable criteria.	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F

Area of Potential Impact Analysis of Depleted Surface Water

All information for area of potential impact of depleted surface water was collected in previous questions.

Hydrogeologic Report

51. Does your project include one or more wells, pumping pits, or ponds that are in a basin closure area? If yes, fill out questions 52 to 53. Your project must have a Hydrogeologic Report that conforms with § 85-2-361 to comply with the requirements of § 85-2-360, MCA. A Hydrogeologic Report Addendum (Form 600-HRA) or Department Technical Analyses may be used to meet these requirements.	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
52. Did you elect in question 1 for the Department to conduct the Technical Analyses?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
a. If yes, the Basin Closure Area Addendum (Form 600-BCA), Form 600-HRA, and Hydrogeologic Report are not required at this time. The Department's Technical Analyses will meet requirements of §85-2-360, MCA for a Hydrogeologic Report and Form 600-HRA. Form 600-BCA will be required with application submittal.		
b. If no, submit the Basin Closure Area Addendum (Form 600-BCA) and Hydrogeologic Report Addendum (600-HRA) with your Technical Analyses.	☐ S	☐ F
53. If the Hydrogeologic Report indicates that the proposed groundwater use will impact a surface water source, identify and explain which of the following three options best describes your plan to mitigate depletions of hydraulically connected surface water and respond to the relevant questions below. ☐ Application to Change a Water Right to mitigate the adverse effects created ☐ Alternative mitigation plan ☐ Documentation to show a mitigation plan is not required		
a. Application to Change a Water Right to mitigate the adverse effects created: Submit a summary of your initial proposal. *A separate Preapplication Meeting will be required for each Application to Change a Water right to a mitigation or aquifer recharge purpose to qualify for expedited timelines and reduced filing fees for the project per ARM 36.12.1302(7)(a).*	☐ S	☐ F
b. Alternative mitigation plan: Submit a summary of your initial proposal.	☐ S	☐ F

i. Do you propose to use water with a marketing for mitigation/aquifer recharge purpose?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
1. If yes,		
a. List the change authorization number(s) for all water rights proposed for use. _____	☐ A	☐ F
b. What is the area defined for marketing for all water rights proposed for use? _____	☐ A	☐ F
c. If Marketing for aquifer recharge, submit the analysis of the monthly accretions to hydraulically connected surface water(s); otherwise write “NA”. _____	☐ S	☐ F
c. Documentation to show a mitigation plan is not required: Submit all documentation.	☐ S	☐ F

MANDATORY PROJECT-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

The following questions are mandatory when applicable and must be filled out before the Preapplication Meeting Form is determined to be complete.

Project-Specific Questions: Controlled Groundwater Areas and Basin Closures

Questions, Narrative Responses, and Tables	Check-boxes	Follow-up
54. Does the project include one or more groundwater points of diversion located in the East Valley Controlled Groundwater Area (EVCGWA)?	☐ Y ☒ N	☐ F
a. If yes, is the use over 35 GPM or 10 AF/YR?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
i. If no, this is the incorrect form. Use instead Form 600-EVCGWA: East Valley Controlled Groundwater Area Permit Application.		
ii. If yes, how does this project meet the specific requirements of the East Valley Controlled Groundwater Area? Include any relevant documentation. _____ _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F
b. If no, skip to question 55.		
55. Does the project include one or more groundwater points of diversion located in the Yellowstone Controlled Groundwater Area?	☐ Y ☒ N	☐ F
a. If yes, is the proposed flow rate and volume over 35 GPM or 10 AF/YR?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
i. If no, this is the incorrect form. Use instead Form 600-YCGA: Yellowstone Controlled Groundwater Area Permit Application.		
ii. If yes, answer the remaining parts of question 55 and submit *Form 600 YCGA: A Yellowstone Controlled Groundwater Area Addendum Over 35 gallons per minute* with the application.		
1. Does the proposed use require a point of diversion with water temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit or more?	☐ Y ☐ N	☐ F
2. If an application is in a basin tributary to a category 3 or 4 stream (generally in or upstream of Yellowstone National Park), submit with the application a report prepared by a qualified professional verifying that the appropriation is not hydrologically connected to surface flow that is tributary to the reserved portion of category 3 or 4 streams.		
b. If no, skip to question 56.		

56. Is the project for surface water or groundwater and subject to one or more of the Controlled Groundwater Areas; administrative, Department ordered, or legislative basin closures; or compact closures listed on the Department's website (https://dnrc.mt.gov/Water-Resources/Water-Rights/Basin-Closures-Stream-Depletion-Controlled-Ground-Water-Areas) not covered in questions 54 to 55?	☐ Y ☒ N	☐ F
a. If yes, identify each area and describe how the proposed project meets its requirements. An application must meet the specific requirements of the Controlled Groundwater Area or closure to be accepted by the Department. _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	☐ A	☐ F

NON-MANDATORY QUESTIONS FOR CRITERIA ANALYSIS

The following questions are not mandatory. They should be discussed in the Preapplication Meeting, but do not need to be filled out before the Preapplication Meeting Form is determined to be complete.

Adverse Effect

Questions, Narrative Responses, and Tables	Check-boxes
57. Describe your plan to ensure that existing water rights will be satisfied during times of water shortage. Turn off pump.	☐ A
58. Explain how you can control your diversion in response to call being made. Diversion period can be reduced to minimum. Irrigation could cease except for fire protection if necessary. Existing well can be used as backup diversion.	☐ A
59. Are you aware of any calls that have been made on the source of supply or depleted surface water source?	☐ Y ☒ N
a. If yes, explain.	☐ A
60. Does a water commissioner distribute water or oversee water distribution on your proposed source or depleted surface water source?	☐ Y ☒ N

61. Will the point of diversion or conveyance infrastructure be shared with one or more existing water rights?	☐ Y ■ N
a. If yes, explain how capacity of the shared point of diversion and/or conveyance infrastructure is sufficient for all water rights.	☐ A

Adequate Diversion Means and Operation

62. Submit a diagram of how you will operate your system from the point of diversion to the place of use.	■ S
63. Describe specific information about the capacity of the diversionary structure(s). This may include, where applicable: pump curves and total dynamic head calculations, headgate design specifications, and dike or dam height and length. ow pool elevation of 2885-ft was for friction analysis**.** The system controls and pressure tank are planned at 2920-ft for an elevation gain of 35-ft. The transmission line from the lake to the pumphouse will be a 250-ft long 1-1/2" PVC pipe. The friction loss over the length of the pipe at 20 gpm is 8.73-ft. From the pumphouse, a 325-ft 1-1/4" PVC pipe will go to the booster pump, with a 27.55-ft friction loss. The elevation difference between the lake and the booster pump is 107-ft. The variable frequency drive will be set to a target pressure of 105 psi for the booster pump. Per the above friction loss of 8.73-ft plus 27.55-ft, the elevation gain of 107-ft, and the service pressure of 105 psi (242.55-ft), the total dynamic head is approximately 386.71-ft. ***See report for additional details.***	☐ A

64. Describe the size, materials, capacity, and configuration of infrastructure to convey water from point of diversion to place of use. This may include but is not limited to, pipelines and ditches. Include a description of any losses related to the proposed conveyance. Ditch conveyance losses may be estimated numerous ways, which include a ditch loss rate or Department standard methods. You may work with the Department to estimate ditch conveyance losses but will need to provide sufficient baseline information; which includes ditch slope, dimensions, length, lining material, soil type, and location. The water main from the submersible pump to the pumphouse will be 1-1/2" PVC. The main from the pumphouse to the booster pump will be 1-1/4" PVC. The main from the booster pump to the zones is existing 1-1/4" PVC buried, with the lines between the trees above ground 3/4" PVC. Nelson R5 rotator sprinklers are existing on the lines between the trees. See report for additional details.	☐ A
65. Describe how the proposed diversion and conveyance infrastructure can provide the required flow and volume, for the purposes plus any conveyance losses and storage, throughout the proposed period of diversion. Water is diverted to small pressure tanks with system controls (variable frequency drive to maintain constant pressure) to meet the irrigation demands across the property. The irrigation system is installed with four zones, operating individually. Water is diverted from micro-sprinklers underneath the trees. The most consumptive zone has 45 trees, with a sprinkler flow of 18 gph (0.3 gpm), the entire zone needs a total flow of 13.5 gpm. The additional 6.5 gpm accounts for the two frost-free hydrants and provides additional distance on the system. See report for additional details.	☐ A
66. Provide a plan of operations, which includes specific information about how water is delivered within the place of use. This may include, where applicable, the range of flow rates needed for a pivot. Water will be diverted to each zone individually in the daytime for an eight-hour period. Each zone will run for two hours before switching to the next zone.	☐ A

67. Does the proposed conveyance require easements?	☐ Y ■ N
a. If yes, explain.	☐ A
68. Do you own the land where all proposed points of diversion are located?	■ Y ☐ N
a. If no, documentation to show you have the right to use all points of diversion located on each property you do not own will be required upon application submittal. This may include, but is not limited to, a well agreement, an easement, or permission of the party that owns the property where the proposed point(s) of diversion are located.	
69. Describe any places of storage, including whether drainage devices will be installed, and provide preliminary designs, if available. Preliminary designs will be required at application submittal.	☐ A
70. Do you have any plans to measure your diversion and use?	☐ Y ■ N
a. If yes, describe the plan and the type of measurements you will take.	☐ A

Beneficial Use

71. Does the Department have a standard for any of the purposes for which water is used? Department standards can be found in ARM 36.12.112 and ARM 36.12.115.	■ Y ☐ N
a. If yes, list the purposes for which the Department has a standard and note whether the proposed use falls within or outside the standard. Climatic area III for sprinkler irrigation at 70% efficiency is 2.08-2.41 AF/acre. The proposed volume use falls within these standards at 2.41 AF/acre.	

72. If no Departmental standard exists for any proposed purpose, or if any proposed purpose falls outside of Department standards, explain how the use is reasonable for that purpose. _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	☐ A
73. Will your proposed project be subject to DEQ requirements for a public water supply (PWS) system or Certificate of Subdivision Approval (COSA)?	☐ Y ■ N
a. If yes,	
i. Have you researched or consulted with DEQ regarding those requirements?	☐ Y ☐ N
74. Are you proposing to use surface water for in-house domestic use?	☐ Y ■ N
a. If yes, does a COSA exist for the proposed place of use?	☐ Y ☐ N
i. If yes, please submit the COSA.	☐ S
ii. If no, have you researched or consulted with DEQ regarding their requirements?	☐ Y ☐ N

Possessory Interest

75. Do you meet one of the exceptions to possessory interest requirements, pursuant to ARM 36.12.1802? Exceptions include cases where the application is for sale, rental, distribution, or is a municipal use, or in any other context in which water is being supplied to another and it is clear that the ultimate user will not accept the supply without consenting to the use of water on the user's place of use.	☐ Y ☒ N
a. If yes, explain. _____ _____ _____ _____	☐ A

b. If no,	
i. Do you own all proposed places of use?	■ Y ☐ N
1. If no,	
a. Explain. Documentation that shows you either have possessory interest or written permission of the parties with possessory interest of the place of use will be required at application submittal. _____ _____ _____ _____	☐ A
b. Would you like the water right to be appurtenant to the land? Please note that if your water right is not appurtenant to land it will not transfer by default with the conveyance of the property, pursuant to § 85-2-403.	☐ Y ☐ N
i. If no, explain. _____ _____ _____	☐ A

Non-Mandatory Project Specific Questions

Place of Storage

76. Does the proposal include at least one place of storage? If yes, answer questions 77 to 80 for each individual place of storage (use "Additional Place of Storage (600P)" sheet for additional places of storage). A Permit Storage Addendum (Form 600-SA) will be required at application submittal. If no, this section is complete, and you can skip to question 81.	☐ Y ■ N
77. Are preliminary designs available? Preliminary designs will be required at application submittal.	☐ S
a. If yes, submit preliminary designs.	☐ Y ☐ N
78. Will the place of storage be lined?	☐ Y ☐ N
79. What is the annual net evaporation of water from the place of storage, based on the Department's gridded net evaporation layer? If you propose a different method, attach an explanation and justification of the method. _____	☐ A

80. Is the place of storage capacity calculated to be greater than 50 AF?	☐ Y ☐ N
a. If yes, have you made an application to the DNRC Water Operations Bureau for a determination of whether the dam or reservoir is a high-hazard dam? This will be required by application submittal.	☐ Y ☐ N

Project-Specific Questions: Water Marketing

81. Does the proposal include water marketing? If yes, please answer the questions in this section (questions 82 to 85). A Water Marketing Addendum Purpose Addendum (600/606-WMA) will be required at application submittal. If no, this section is complete.	☐ Y ■ N
82. For what purpose(s) will the marketed water be used? _____ _____ _____	☐ A
83. How will you control or limit access to the water? _____ _____ _____	☐ A
84. Do you have contracts for the entire volume and flow rate sought?	☐ Y ☐ N
85. Provide a service area map. Create map on an aerial photograph or topographic map and show the following: general service area boundary, section corners, township and range, scale bar, and north arrow.	☐ S

FOLLOW-UP

The tables below will identify all questions marked for follow-up. Applicant follow-up will be submitted with the completed Preapplication Meeting Form: Part B (Form 600P-B). Applicant will provide all responses to questions marked for follow-up on a separate document entitled "Follow-up Responses." At the preapplication meeting, the Department may offer to provide the Applicant with information pertinent to identified follow-up. In this case, record in the notes column what information the Department will provide and the date by which the Department will email this information to the Applicant. This information will supplement but not replace Applicant follow-up. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to provide all follow-up, including questions supplemented by Department information, in the "Follow-up Responses" document.

The "Follow-up Responses" document must conform to the following standards. Label all responses with the question number. Answer questions in the same format as the form. For responses in the form of checkboxes, write "Y", "N", "S". Constrain narrative responses to the specific question as is asked on the form; do not respond to multiple questions in one narrative. Label units in narrative responses and tables. Tables must have the exact headings found on the form. Questions that require items to be submitted to the Department may be marked "S" when the required item is attached to the Preapplication Meeting Form. Label all submitted items with the question number for which they were submitted.

***The Applicant may not alter the Preapplication Meeting Form: Part A (Form 600P-A) signed at the Preapplication Meeting**. Instead, the Applicant must use the Amended Responses procedure defined in Form 600P-B. Do not include additional information for questions that were not marked for follow-up on this table; instead include any additional information pursuant to the process for amending responses defined in Form 600P-B.*

QUESTION #	NOTES

PREAPPLICATION MEETING AFFIDAVIT & CERTIFICATION

"We attest that the information on this form accurately describes the proposed project discussed during the preapplication meeting, and that the items marked for follow-up will require the Applicant to provide additional information before the form is deemed complete."

"Applicant acknowledges that any information provided by the Department during the preapplication meeting is preliminary and subject to change."

"Applicant acknowledges that if the follow-up information provided to the Department substantially changes the proposed project, for example in a way that alters which sections of the form are applicable or which technical analyses are required, or who is to complete the technical analyses, the applicant will need to schedule a new preapplication meeting so that the Department can identify any additional information necessary for completion of the technical analyses (ARM 36.12.1302(3)(c))."

Upon Department receipt of the completed form (within 180 days following the meeting), the Department reserves five business days to return the form to the applicant if:

1 – the completed form does not include all necessary follow-up information identified in the meeting, OR
2 – the completed form is not adequate for the Department to proceed with technical analyses, OR
3 – the applicant has elected to complete technical analyses and has not submitted each piece of technical analysis required, OR
4 – the applicant has substantially changed the details of the proposed project, such as in a way that alters which sections of the form are applicable, which technical analyses are required, or who is to complete the technical analyses.

If the Department returns the form to the Applicant within these five days due to reasons 1-3 above, the Applicant can use the balance of their 180-day period in ARM 36.12.1302(4) or (5) to gather the remaining follow-up information needed. If there is no time remaining in the 180-day period, the Applicant can submit a written request for a new preapplication meeting, pursuant to ARM 36.12.1302(2). Even if there is still time remaining, the Applicant can choose to schedule a new preapplication meeting. The Department shall transfer the $500 payment received to the new preapplication meeting or refund the payment to the Applicant if the Applicant desires. If the Department returns the form to the Applicant within these five days due to reason (4) above, the Applicant must submit a written request for a new preapplication meeting, pursuant to ARM 36.12.1302(2). The Department shall transfer the $500 payment received to the new preapplication meeting or refund the payment to the Applicant if the Applicant desires.

Applicant Signature	8/26/25 Date
Applicant Signature	Date
Department Signature	10/31/25 Date

REQUEST FOR PREAPPLICATION MEETING

ARM 36.12.1302(2)

(Revised 02/2025)

For Department Use Only

Date Received _____

Received By _____

Scheduled Meeting Date _____

Instructions

Use this optional form to submit a written request for a preapplication meeting, as required in ARM 36.12.1302(2) for applicants electing to complete a preapplication meeting with the department prior to submitting an application for a beneficial water use permit or change in appropriation right pursuant to § 85-2-302, MCA. Use additional sheets as necessary.

Submit this form to the appropriate regional office; see contact information on the last page of this form.

1. **Applicant Name** Blake Thompson

Mailing Address 22581 MT HWY 35

City Bigfork State MT Zip 59911

Home Phone _____ Other Phone 727-251-7707

Email: bthompson@blakeip.com

2. **Representative Name** (if other than Applicant) Mikel Siemens, PE; Core Water Consulting

☑ Representative is Consultant ☐ Representative is Attorney ☐ Representative is Other

Mailing Address 490 E Montana Street, Suite 2

City Kalispell State MT Zip 59901

Home Phone 406-890-2073 office Other Phone 406-261-0216

Email: mikel@corewaterconsulting.com

3. **Are you requesting a preapplication meeting for a permit or change application?**

☑ Permit ☐ Change

4. **Describe your project:**

Blake Thompson desires a surface water Provisional Permit from Flathead Lake for irrigation of an existing cherry orchard. There is a well on the property which is being used for domestic purposes and irrigation, which is not able to sustain adequate irrigation due to drawdown. The well will divert for domestic and backup irrigation water.

5. Identify the following elements of the proposed permit or change in appropriation.

a) The flow rate and volume of water required:

Flow Rate 40 ☑ GPM ☐ CFS Volume 3.62 Acre-Feet

b) The point of diversion:

Point of Diversion #1 S2 1/4 NE 1/4 SE 1/4 Section 29, Township 25 ☑ N ☐ S, Range 19 ☐ E ☑ W
County Lake
Lot/Tract Gov't 3 Block ____ Subdivision Name ____

Point of Diversion #2 ____ 1/4 ____ 1/4 ____ 1/4 Section ____, Township ____ ☐ N ☐ S, Range ____ ☐ E ☐ W
County ____
Lot/Tract ____ Block ____ Subdivision Name ____

c) The place of use:

Acres	Lot	Block	1/4	1/4	1/4 Sec	Twp	N/S	Rge	E/W
1.5			S2	NE	SE 29	25	☑ N ☐ S	19	☐ E ☑ W
							☐ N ☐ S		☐ E ☐ W
							☐ N ☐ S		☐ E ☐ W
							☐ N ☐ S		☐ E ☐ W
							☐ N ☐ S		☐ E ☐ W

d) The source of water: Flathead Lake

e) The proposed purpose: Irrigation (Orchard)

f) For a change in appropriation right, the water right(s) proposed for change:

Type of water right ____ Basin ____ Water Right # ____
Type of water right ____ Basin ____ Water Right # ____
Type of water right ____ Basin ____ Water Right # ____

Identify the water right elements proposed for change, with a checkmark for each water right proposed for change.

Water Right #					
Point of diversion	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Place of use	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Purpose of use	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Place of storage	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

g) For a change in appropriation right, an explanation of historical use of the right(s) proposed for change:

None. Been diverting without permit from well. Owner did not know that permits were not issued.

h) Any proposed place of storage, if applicable (only if storage capacity is greater than 0.1 acre-feet):

#1 Capacity: Surface Acres _____ x Max Depth (feet) _____ x (.4 for dams/.5 for pits) = _____Acre-Feet

Location: ____1/4 ____1/4 ____1/4 Section ___, Township ___ ☐ N ☐ S, Range ___ ☐ E ☐ W

#2 Capacity: Surface Acres _____ x Max Depth (feet) _____ x (.4 for dams/.5 for pits) = _____Acre-Feet

Location: ____1/4 ____1/4 ____1/4 Section ___, Township ___ ☐ N ☐ S, Range ___ ☐ E ☐ W

#3 Capacity: Surface Acres _____ x Max Depth (feet) _____ x (.4 for dams/.5 for pits) = _____Acre-Feet

Location: ____1/4 ____1/4 ____1/4 Section ___, Township ___ ☐ N ☐ S, Range ___ ☐ E ☐ W

i) For applications proposing a well or wells, the well depth(s) and location. If more than two wells, attach a separate sheet to this request:

Well #1 ☐ New Well ☐ Existing Well

For existing well, if available, Water Right # _____ GWIC ID _____

1/4 _____1/4 ___1/4 Section _____, Township _____ ☐ N ☐ S, Range _____ ☐ E ☐ W

County _____

Lot/Tract _____ Block_____ Subdivision Name_____

Estimated Well Depth _____ Feet

Well #2 ☐ New Well ☐ Existing Well

For existing well, if available, Water Right # _____ GWIC ID _____

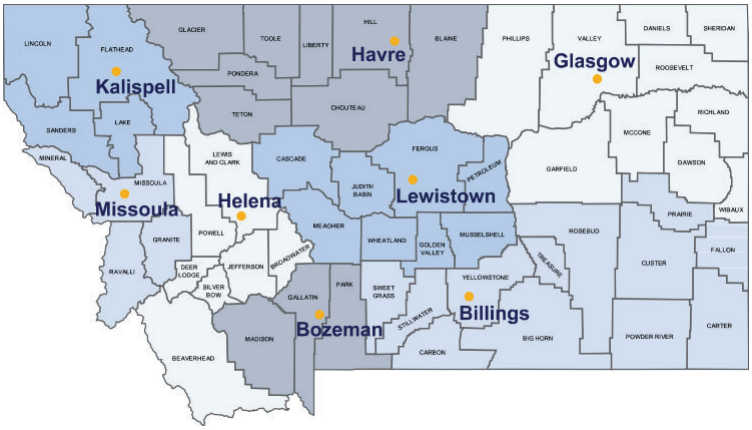
_____1/4 ___1/4 ____1/4 Section _____, Township _____ ☐ N ☐ S, Range _____ ☐ E ☐ W

County _____

Lot/Tract _____ Block_____ Subdivision Name_____

Estimated Well Depth _____ Feet

WATER RESOURCES REGIONAL OFFICES



BILLINGS
Airport Industrial Park, 1371 Rimtop Dr
Billings, MT 59105-9702

PHONE 406-247-4415 FAX 406-247-4416
EMAIL DNRCBillingsWater@mt.gov

Big Horn, Carbon, Carter, Custer, Fallon, Powder River, Prairie, Rosebud, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Treasure, and Yellowstone Counties

BOZEMAN
2273 Boot Hill Court, Suite 110
Bozeman, MT 59715-7249

PHONE 406-586-3136 FAX 406-587-9726
EMAIL DNRCBozemanWater@mt.gov

Gallatin, Madison, and Park Counties

GLASGOW
222 6th Street South, PO Box 1269
Glasgow, MT 59230-1269

PHONE 406-228-2561
EMAIL DNRCGlasgowWater@mt.gov

Daniels, Dawson, Garfield, McCone, Phillips, Richland, Roosevelt, Sheridan, Valley, and Wibaux Counties

HAVRE
210 6th Ave., PO Box 1828
Havre, MT 59501-1828

PHONE 406-265-5516
EMAIL DNRCHavreWater@mt.gov

Blaine, Chouteau, Glacier, Hill, Liberty, Pondera, Teton, and Toole Counties

HELENA
1424 9th Ave., PO Box 201601,
Helena, MT 59620-1601

PHONE 406-444-6999 FAX 406-444-9317
EMAIL DNRCHelenaWater@mt.gov

Beaverhead, Broadwater, Deer Lodge, Jefferson, Lewis and Clark, Powell, and Silver Bow Counties

KALISPELL
655 Timberwolf Parkway, Suite 4
Kalispell, MT 59901-1215

PHONE 406-752-2288
EMAIL DNRCKalispellWater@mt.gov

Flathead, Lake, Lincoln, and Sanders Counties

LEWISTOWN
613 Northeast Main St., Suite E
Lewistown, MT 59457-2020

PHONE 406-538-7459
EMAIL DNRCLewistownWater@mt.gov

Cascade, Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Meagher, Musselshell, Petroleum, and Wheatland Counties

MISSOULA
2705 Spurgin Rd. Bldg. C, PO Box 5004
Missoula, MT 59806-5004

PHONE 406-721-4284 FAX 406-542-5899
EMAIL DNRCMissoulaWater@mt.gov

Granite, Mineral, Missoula, and Ravalli Counties