

# PUBLIC NOTICE

## PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Notice to Water Users  
(Pursuant to Section 85-2-307, MCA)

The following application has been submitted to appropriate water in the State of Montana.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT DEADLINE: APRIL 30, 2026.** PUBLIC COMMENTS MUST BE FILED ON A PUBLIC COMMENT FORM, FORM 654, AND MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE STATED DEADLINE. THE FORM IS AVAILABLE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE OR CAN BE OBTAINED FROM ANY WATER RESOURCES REGIONAL OFFICE. MAIL PAPER COPIES OF THE COMPLETED FORM TO: DNRC WATER RIGHTS BUREAU, PO BOX 201601, HELENA, MT 59620-1601. SUBMIT ELECTRONIC COPIES OF THE COMPLETED FORM TO: DNRCWATERRIGHTSCOMMENTOBJECTION@MT.GOV. PER 85-2-307(5)(C), MCA, IF NO PUBLIC COMMENTS ARE RECEIVED, THE DRAFT PD WILL BE ADOPTED AS FINAL AND THERE WILL BE NO OPPORTUNITY TO OBJECT TO THIS APPLICATION.

DIRECT ANY QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO THE APPLICATION, OR REQUESTS TO OBTAIN THE DRAFT PD OR PUBLIC COMMENT FORM TO THE WATER RESOURCES OFFICE AT 2705 SPURGIN RD, BLDG C, PO BOX 5004, MISSOULA, MT 59804-5004, PHONE: 406-721-4284, FAX: 406-542-5899.

IF ISSUED, THE RIGHT WILL BE SUBJECT TO PRIOR EXISTING WATER RIGHTS.

**Application Number:** 76M 30165615  
**Owners:** JOHN STAHL  
 5905 MULLAN ROAD  
 MISSOULA, MT 59808-5647  
**Priority Date:** OCTOBER 27, 2025 at 12:00 A.M.  
**Purpose (Use):** IRRIGATION  
**Maximum Flow Rate:** 1.78 CFS  
**Maximum Volume:** 361.50 AC-FT  
**Maximum Acres:** 150.00  
**Source Name:** GROUND WATER  
**Source Type:** GROUNDWATER

**Point of Diversion and Means of Diversion:**

<u>ID</u>	<u>Govt Lot</u>	<u>Qtr Sec</u>	<u>Sec</u>	<u>Twp</u>	<u>Rge</u>	<u>County</u>
1		NWNESW	13	13N	20W	MISSOULA

**Period of Diversion:** APRIL 15 TO OCTOBER 15  
**Diversion Means:** WELL  
**Well Depth:** 135.00 FEET  
**Static Water Level:** 5.00 FEET  
**Casing Diameter:** 10.00 INCHES

**Purpose (Use):** IRRIGATION  
**Irrigation Type:** SPRINKLER  
**Climatic Area:** 3 - MODERATE  
**Volume:** 361.50 AC-FT  
**Period of Use:** APRIL 15 to OCTOBER 15  
**Place of Use:**

<u>ID</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Govt Lot</u>	<u>Qtr Sec</u>	<u>Sec</u>	<u>Twp</u>	<u>Rge</u>	<u>County</u>
1	10.00		S2S2NW	13	13N	20W	MISSOULA
2	40.00		W2SE	13	13N	20W	MISSOULA
3	30.00		NWSW	13	13N	20W	MISSOULA
4	70.00		E2SW	13	13N	20W	MISSOULA
<b>Total:</b>	150.00						

**Remarks:**

### **CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN LAW**

THIS PROVISIONAL WATER USE PERMIT HAS A PRIORITY DATE THAT IS JUNIOR TO THE RIGHTS OF SENIOR WATER RIGHT HOLDERS IN THE CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN. IN ACCORDANCE WITH MONTANA LAW, YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO A CALL BY SENIOR WATER RIGHT HOLDERS, IN WHICH CASE YOU MAY BE REQUIRED TO DISCONTINUE YOUR USE OF WATER FOR THE PERIOD OF THE CALL.

### **CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES - RESERVED WATER RIGHTS**

THIS RIGHT IS SUBJECT TO ALL PRIOR INDIAN RESERVED WATER RIGHTS OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES IN THE SOURCE OF SUPPLY. IT IS THE TRIBE'S POSITION THAT THE EXERCISE OF JUNIOR WATER RIGHTS EITHER WITHIN OR OUTSIDE OF THE EXTERIOR BOUNDARIES OF THE FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVATION MAY AFFECT THE RESERVED WATER RIGHTS OF THE TRIBE WITHIN THE EXTERIOR BOUNDARIES OF THE RESERVATION. IT IS THE TRIBE'S POSITION THAT ECONOMIC INVESTMENTS MADE IN RELIANCE UPON THIS RIGHT DO NOT CREATE IN THE APPROPRIATOR ANY EQUITY OR VESTED RIGHT AGAINST THE TRIBES. THE APPROPRIATOR IS HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY FINANCIAL OUTLAY OR WORK INVESTED IN A PROJECT PURSUANT TO THIS RIGHT IS AT APPROPRIATOR'S RISK. THE ISSUANCE OF THIS RIGHT DOES NOT REDUCE THE APPROPRIATOR'S LIABILITY FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT. IT DOES NOT MAKE THE DEPARTMENT LIABLE FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT. NOR IS THE DEPARTMENT LIABLE FOR ANY LOSS TO THE APPROPRIATOR CAUSED BY THE EXERCISE OF SENIOR RESERVED WATER RIGHTS.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

THE APPROPRIATOR'S USE OF WATER UNDER THIS PERMIT IS CONDITIONED UPON THE 253.1 AC-FT OF MITIGATION VOLUME REQUIRED TO OFFSET ADVERSE EFFECTS FROM NET DEPLETION TO THE CLARK FORK RIVER. DIVERSION UNDER THIS PERMIT MAY NOT COMMENCE UNTIL THE MITIGATION PLAN AS SPECIFICALLY DESCRIBED AND APPROVED THROUGH CHANGE AUTHORIZATION 76M 30165370 IS LEGALLY IMPLEMENTED. DIVERSION UNDER THIS PERMIT MUST STOP IF MITIGATION AS HEREIN REQUIRED IN AMOUNT, LOCATION, AND DURATION CEASES.

### **WATER MEASUREMENT INFORMATION**

THE APPROPRIATOR SHALL MAINTAIN CURRENT ELECTRICAL INFORMATION SO AVERAGE SYSTEM DISCHARGE AND PUMP MOTOR POWER CONSUMPTION MAY BE CALCULATED. A RECORD OF ANY SYSTEM CHANGES ALONG WITH WRITTEN RECORDS OF THE DIVERSION SCHEDULE SHALL ALSO BE MAINTAINED. ON A FORM PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT, THE APPROPRIATOR SHALL OBTAIN ELECTRICAL CONSUMPTION RECORDS AND FROM THOSE RECORDS CALCULATE THE VOLUME OF WATER DIVERTED. RECORDS SHALL BE SUBMITTED BY NOVEMBER 30 OF EACH YEAR AND UPON REQUEST AT OTHER TIMES DURING THE YEAR UNTIL THE PROVISIONAL PERMIT IS PERFECTED AND THE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES A PROJECT COMPLETION NOTICE. IF CONDITION IS MET AND THE APPROPRIATION IS PERFECTED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORIZATION, THE DEPARTMENT WILL REMOVE THE CONDITION UPON VERIFICATION OF THE PERMIT. IN THE EVENT THAT PERMITTED FLOW RATES AND/OR VOLUMES HAVE BEEN EXCEEDED DURING PERFECTION OF THE PROVISIONAL PERMIT OR THE APPROPRIATOR FAILS TO SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORTS, THE DEPARTMENT MAY CONTINUE TO REQUIRE ANNUAL SUBMISSIONS OF MONTHLY FLOW RATE AND VOLUME RECORDS. FAILURE TO SUBMIT REPORTS MAY BE CAUSE FOR REVOCATION OF A PERMIT OR CHANGE. THE RECORDS MUST BE SENT TO THE WATER RESOURCES REGIONAL OFFICE.

**PUBLISHED IN:** MISSOULIAN ON MARCH 31, 2026.