

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.

PUBLISHED IN: MISSOULIAN ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2026.