MONTANA WATER COURT
YELLOWSTONE DIVISION
CLARKS FORK, YELLOWSTONE RIVER
BASIN 43D

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NOTICE OF ENTRY OF INTERLOCUTORY DECREE AND NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

The Montana Water Court has entered the Interlocutory Decree for Basin 43D. The Interlocutory Decree includes 597 water right claims. The only water right claims in the Interlocutory Decree are those not previously decreed by the Water Court or that have issues that still need to be addressed. The Interlocutory Decree does not include water rights that were fully adjudicated in the Preliminary Decree.

- If an abstract is included with this notice, then your claim **is** part of the Interlocutory Decree.
- If an abstract was not included with this notice, then your claim **is not** part of the Interlocutory Decree.

The Interlocutory Decree can be viewed at: https://courts.mt.gov/Courts/Water/Notices-Info/PublicNotices. If you prefer to view a paper copy, please contact the Water Court or your DNRC office. See below for contact information.

If you believe any water right claims in the Interlocutory Decree do not reflect historical (before July 1, 1973) beneficial use, you should file an objection by **November 23, 2026**. Objections must be filed on the forms provided by the Water Court. The forms can be found at: https://courts.mt.gov/Courts/Water/LegalResources or by contacting the Water Court: watercourt@mt.gov or (406) 586-4364.

A request to extend the objection deadline must be filed by **November 23, 2026**. If an extension is granted it will be advertised in the *Billings Gazette, Carbon County News* and *Laurel Outlook.*

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Water Court will be offering an informal public meeting to explain the objection process on **Wednesday, July 8, 2026,** at **12:00 pm** via Zoom. To take part in the telephone conference, dial (646) 558-8656, enter the Meeting ID 836 9614 6628 #, then press # to skip participant ID, then enter the meeting password 800373 # *or* log in online using this link: https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/83696146628?pwd=jYUl9my1uDQ9LVBW79kuRcaISZbiDL.1

If any of your water right claims in the Interlocutory Decree receive objections, the Court will notify you, and you will be allowed to file a counterobjection. After all notice periods have closed, the Water Court will address all objections, counterobjections, and issue remarks. **Make sure your address is up to date with the DNRC**.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Montana Water Court
PO Box 1389
Bozeman, MT 59771
(406) 586-4364
watercourt@mt.gov

Montana DNRC, Water Rights Adjudication Office
1424 9th Avenue
Helena, MT 59620
(406) 444-0560

Montana DNRC, Billings Water Resources Regional Office
1371 Rimtop Drive
Billings, MT 59105-1978
(406) 247-4415

Remember, objections must be filed and received by the Water Court by November 23, 2026.

DATED this 27th day of May, 2026.

/s/ Stephen R. Brown
Chief Water Judge
Montana Water Court

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCESS, OTHERWISE, YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL ANY DECISIONS AFFECTING YOUR WATER RIGHT IS LIMITED.