PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice to Water Users

(Pursuant to Section 85-2-307, MCA)

The following application has been submitted to change a water right in the State of Montana.

THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION PROPOSES TO GRANT AN APPLICATION TO CHANGE A WATER RIGHT. DESCRIBED BELOW ARE THE PERTINENT FACTS WHICH SUMMARIZE THE APPLICATION. THE 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/.

OBJECTION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 20, 2026. OBJECTIONS MUST BE FILED ON AN OBJECTION TO APPLICATION FORM, FORM 611, 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 AND THE $50.00 FILING FEE TO: DNRC WATER RIGHTS BUREAU, PO BOX 201601, HELENA, MT 59620-1601. SUBMIT ELECTRONIC COPIES OF THE COMPLETED FORM TO: DNRCWATERRIGHTSCOMMENTOBJECTION@MT.GOV. IF YOU SUBMIT THE FORM ELECTRONICALLY, MAIL THE $50.00 FILING FEE TO THE ADDRESS ABOVE OR PAY BY PHONE AT (406) 444-6610 BY THE DEADLINE SPECIFIED.

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

Application Number: 76H 30161876

Applicant: MISSOULA COUNTY
MISSOULA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
200 W BROADWAY
MISSOULA, MT 59802 4216

WATER RIGHT NUMBER(S) BEING CHANGED

Water Right Type	Water Right Number	Priority Date
PROVISIONAL PERMIT	76H 4927-00	FEBRUARY 25, 1975

Historical Flow Rate: 705. GPM
Historical Consumptive Volume: 94.50 AC-FT
Historical Diverted Volume: 135.00 AC-FT

PAST USE OF WATER

THE PAST USE OF WATER IS FOR IRRIGATION OF LANDSCAPING IN FORT MISSOULA REGIONAL PARK. THE POINT OF DIVERSION IS A WELL LOCATED IN THE SENENW SECTION 31, T13N, R19W. WATER WAS USED ON 52 ACRES IN THE NW SECTION 31, T13N, R19W. THE FLOW RATE OF WATER HISTORICALLY USED BY THIS RIGHT IS 705 GPM. DIVERTED VOLUME WAS 135 AF, AND THE CONSUMPTIVE USE WAS 94.5 AF. THE HISTORICAL PERIOD OF DIVERSION AND USE WAS FROM APRIL 15 TO SEPTEMBER 15.

PROPOSED CHANGE

THIS APPLICATION IS FOR A CHANGE TO THE PURPOSE AND PLACE OF USE OF PROVISIONAL PERMIT 76H 4927-00. SEVEN HISTORICALLY IRRIGATED ACRES WILL BE RETIRED UNDER THIS CHANGE, RESULTING IN A REDUCTION IN CONSUMPTIVE USE BY 12.7 AF. THE WATER CONSUMED BY IRRIGATION HISTORICALLY RESULTED IN DEPLETIONS TO THE BITTERROOT RIVER BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF SECTION 31, T13N, R19W. THE HISTORICALLY CONSUMED VOLUME ASSOCIATED WITH THE RETIRED IRRIGATION WILL BE USED FOR A NEW PURPOSE OF MITIGATION TO OFFSET THE DEPLETIONS ARISING FROM NEW LAWN & GARDEN IRRIGATION AT THE MISSOULA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS UNDER PERMIT APPLICATION 76H 30151075.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

WATER MEASUREMENT-INLINE FLOW METER REQUIRED: THE APPROPRIATOR SHALL INSTALL A DEPARTMENT APPROVED IN-LINE FLOW METER AT A POINT IN THE DELIVERY LINE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT. WATER MUST NOT BE DIVERTED UNTIL THE REQUIRED MEASURING DEVICE IS IN PLACE AND OPERATING. ON A FORM PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT, THE APPROPRIATOR SHALL KEEP A WRITTEN MONTHLY RECORD OF THE FLOW RATE AND VOLUME OF ALL WATER DIVERTED, INCLUDING THE PERIOD OF TIME. RECORDS SHALL BE SUBMITTED BY NOVEMBER 30 OF EACH YEAR AND UPON REQUEST AT OTHER TIMES DURING THE YEAR. IN THE EVENT THAT AUTHORIZED FLOW RATES AND/OR VOLUMES HAVE BEEN EXCEEDED DURING PERFECTION OF THE CHANGE AUTHORIZATION 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 MISSOULA WATER RESOURCES REGIONAL OFFICE. THE APPROPRIATOR SHALL MAINTAIN THE MEASURING DEVICE SO IT ALWAYS OPERATES PROPERLY AND MEASURES FLOW RATE AND VOLUME ACCURATELY.

THIS CHANGE AUTHORIZATION PROVIDES MITIGATION WATER FOR BENEFICIAL WATER USE PERMIT NO. 76H 30151075. THE BENEFICIAL USE CRITERION OF THIS CHANGE AUTHORIZATION IS CONDITIONED UPON THE AUTHORIZATION OF BENEFICIAL WATER USE PERMIT AUTHORIZATION NO. 76H 30151075.

PUBLISHED IN: MISSOULIAN ON OCTOBER 6, 2026.