

**MONTANA WATER COURT
YELLOWSTONE DIVISION
YELLOWSTONE RIVER ABOVE AND INCLUDING BRIDGER CREEK
BASIN 43B**

**NOTICE OF ENTRY OF INTERLOCUTORY DECREE AND NOTICE OF
AVAILABILITY**

The Montana Water Court has entered the Interlocutory Decree for Basin 43B. The Interlocutory Decree includes 711 water right claims. The only water right claims in the Interlocutory Decree are those not previously decreed by the Water Court or have issues that still need to be addressed. The Interlocutory Decree does not include water rights that were fully adjudicated in the Temporary Preliminary Decree or 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 **September 14, 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 **September 14, 2026**. If an extension is granted it will be advertised in the *Livingston Enterprise*, *Big Timber Pioneer*, and *Billings Gazette*.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Water Court will be offering informal public meetings to explain the objection process on the following dates:

- **Wednesday April 29, 2026, at 6:00 pm in person** at Park County Fairgrounds (Dining Room), 46 View Vista Dr. Livingston, MT 59047.
- **Thursday, May 21, 2026, at 12:00 pm via Zoom**. To take part in the telephone conference, dial (646) 558-8656, enter the Meeting ID 858 3496 9412#, then press # to skip participant ID, then enter the meeting password 213117# or log in online using this link: <https://mt.gov.zoom.us/j/85834969412?pwd=rVzmbLG80IurBS2rPTP9d5JHB24RYg.1>

If someone objects to any of your water right claims, the Court will notify you, and you will be allowed to file a counterobjection. After all notice periods have passed, 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
1123 Research Drive
Bozeman, MT 59718
(406) 586-4364
watercourt@mt.gov

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

Montana DNRC, Bozeman Water Resources Regional Office
2273 Boot Hill Court, Ste 110
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406) 586-3136

Remember, objections must be filed and received by the Water Court by September 14, 2026.

DATED this 18th day of March, 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.