Montana Water Court PO Box 1389 Bozeman, MT 59771-1389 1-800-624-3270 (406) 586-4364 watercourt@mt.gov FILE D
04/28/2025
Sara Calkins
CLERK
Montana Water Court
STATE OF MONTANA
By: D'Ann CIGLER
41K-0708-R-2024
Peters, Bina
3.00

# IN THE WATER COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA UPPER MISSOURI DIVISION SUN RIVER BASIN (41K) PRELIMINARY DECREE

CLAIMANT: United States of America (Fish & Wildlife Service)

CASE 41K-0708-R-2024 41K 188174-00

## ORDER AMENDING AND ADOPTING MASTER'S REPORT

Pursuant to Montana Code Annotated, section 85-2-233(5), the above-entitled Case was assigned to Senior Water Master Eugene C. White. The Water Master filed a Report containing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on March 14, 2025. On March 27, 2025, Claimant United States Fish and Wildlife Service filed an objection to the Master's Report. The objection states that the legal land description of point of diversion Id No. 2, should appear as NWNWSW Section 27, Township 23N, Range 1E, Teton County rather than NWNWSW Section 27, Township 23N, Range 1W, Teton County to be consistent with their previously filed Motion to Amend.

Therefore, point of diversion Id. No. 2 legal land description should be modified accordingly.

The Court has reviewed the Water Master's Findings and Conclusions. Pursuant to Rule 53(e), Montana Rules of Civil Procedure, the Court **ADOPTS** the Master's Report with the above referenced amendments.

A Post Decree Abstract is served with this Order to confirm that the Recommendations set forth in the Master's Report, as amended by this Order, have been adopted for the claim in this Case.

## ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED AND DATED BELOW.

## Service via USPS Mail:

## Last Order:

USA (Dept of Interior Fish & Wildlife Service) Denver Federal Center PO Box 25486, MS #60189 Denver, CO 80225

# Service Via Electronic Mail:

Mark J. Widerschein, Trial Attorney US Dept of Justice, ENRD-NRS PO Box 7611 Washington, DC 20044-7611 (202) 532-5803 mark.widerschein@usdoj.gov MontanaBasins.ENRD@USDOJ.GOV

**Note: Service List Updated 3-27-25** 

#### POST DECREE

## ABSTRACT OF WATER RIGHT CLAIM

## **SUN RIVER**

## **BASIN 41K**

Water Right Number: 41K 188174-00 STATEMENT OF CLAIM

Version: 4 -- POST DECREE

Status: ACTIVE

Owners: USA (DEPT OF INTERIOR FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE)

DENVER FEDERAL CENTER PO BOX 25486, MS #60189 DENVER, CO 80225-0486

**Priority Date:** APRIL 28, 1958

Type of Historical Right: USE

Purpose (Use): FISH AND WILDLIFE

Flow Rate: 50.00 CFS

Volume: 14,600.00 AC-FT Source Name: MUDDY CREEK

Source Type: SURFACE WATER

Point of Diversion and Means of Diversion:

ID Govt Lot Qtr Sec Sec Twp Rge County

1 NWSENW 2 22N 1W TETON

Period of Diversion: JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31

**Diversion Means:** PUMP

2 - SECONDARY NWNWSW 27 23N 1E TETON

Period of Diversion: JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31

**Diversion Means:** PIPELINE

WATER DIVERTED FROM MUDDY CREEK IS CONVEYED TO LAKE CREEK WHICH IS

USED AS A NATURAL CARRIER TO CONVEY WATER TO THE PLACE OF USE.

Reservoir: OFFSTREAM Reservoir Name: BENTON LAKE

Govt Lot Otr Sec Sec Twp Rge County

CASCADE

Diversion to Reservoir: DIVERSION # 1

Surface Area: 5,673.00 ACRES

Capacity: 14,222.00 ACRE-FEET

SEE THE RESERVOIR WORKSHEET IN THE CLAIM FILE FOR ADDITIONAL

RESERVOIR DATA.

RESERVOIR SURFACE AREA IS 5607 ACRES WITH SEVERAL SPILLWAYS TO

CONTROL WATER SEE FILE FOR MORE INFORMATION

Period of Use: JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31

Place of Use:

<u>ID</u>	<u>Acres</u>	Govt Lot	<b>Qtr Sec</b>	<u>Sec</u>	<u>Twp</u>	<u>Rge</u>	<b>County</b>
1			W2	2	22N	3E	CASCADE
2				3	22N	3E	CASCADE

3		4	22N	3E	CASCADE	
4		5	22N	3E	CASCADE	
5	E2E2	6	22N	3E	CASCADE	
6	SWSE	6	22N	3E	CASCADE	
7	N2N2	8	22N	3E	CASCADE	
8	SE	8	22N	3E	CASCADE	
9	E2SW	8	22N	3E	CASCADE	
10	SWSW	8	22N	3E	CASCADE	
11		9	22N	3E	CASCADE	
12		10	22N	3E	CASCADE	
13	W2	11	22N	3E	CASCADE	
14	S2N2	13	22N	3E	CASCADE	
15	S2	13	22N	3E	CASCADE	
16		14	22N	3E	CASCADE	
17		15	22N	3E	CASCADE	
18	N2	16	22N	3E	CASCADE	
19	SE	16	22N	3E	CASCADE	
20	E2SW	16	22N	3E	CASCADE	
21	N2	17	22N	3E	CASCADE	
22	N2N2	22	22N	3E	CASCADE	
23	SENE	22	22N	3E	CASCADE	
24		23	22N	3E	CASCADE	
25		24	22N	3E	CASCADE	
26		25	22N	3E	CASCADE	
27	NE	26	22N	3E	CASCADE	
28	W2SW	18	22N	4E	CASCADE	
29	W2	19	22N	4E	CASCADE	
30	W2	30	22N	4E	CASCADE	

# Remarks:

THIS APPROPRIATION OF WATER TAKES WATER FROM THE SUN RIVER DRAINAGE (BASIN 41K) AND USES IT IN THE MISSOURI RIVER, FROM SUN TO MARIAS RIVERS DRAINAGE (BASIN 41Q). ANY OBJECTION TO THIS RIGHT MAY BE FILED DURING THE OBJECTION PERIODS FOR EITHER THE POINT OF DIVERSION OR PLACE OF USE BASIN.