GOOD MEDICINE COMMUNITY // “MINO MASHKIKI DOODEM”

Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana
511 Central Ave W
Great Falls, MT 59404

HUD ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Prepared by TD&H Engineering
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24-126

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U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

451 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410
www.hud.gov

espanol.hud.gov

Environmental Assessment
Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects
24 CFR Part 58

Project Information

Project Name: GOOD MEDICINE COMMUNITY // "MINO MASHKIKI DOODEM"

Responsible Entity: Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana ("Little Shell Tribe" or "Tribe")

Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Entity):

State/Local Identifier: MONTANA

Preparer: Peter Klevberg, P.E., TD&H Engineering; Sidney Curnow, Housing Director, Little Shell Tribe

Certifying Officer Name and Title: Gerald Gray, Jr., Tribal Chairman, Little Shell Tribe

Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Entity):

Consultant: TD&H Engineering, Great Falls, Montana

Direct Comments to:
Peter Klevberg, P.E., TD&H Engineering

Good Medicine Special Project Manager: Sidney Curnow, Housing Director, Little Shell Tribe

Project Location: Great Falls, Montana: The property is located west of the Valley View Neighborhood at the intersection of 10th Avenue Northwest and 15th Street Northwest and east of 1301 Stukey Road. Legal description: S03, T20 N, R03 E, IN SENW, TRACT 1 COS 3779, MK2AA.

Note: The project area outlined in blue.

Description of the Proposed Project [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]**:**

This area of Great Falls, particularly Hill 57 located a half mile to the northeast, was used by the Little Shell in the early 1900's as a place of residence and has place-based cultural significance to the Tribe. The property was acquired to develop a housing community for Little Shell tribal members. The Little Shell Tribal Housing Department will assume responsibility for the site under its annual Indian Housing Block Grant funding with financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) program. The Proposed Project will be comprised of up to 65 single-family and/or duplex units, and an apartment complex estimated to contain up to 50 residential units. The project will bring desperately needed housing to the area with a focus on providing Indian preference to Little Shell tribal members. The development will occur in phases as described below.

Phase 1 will involve development of approximately 9.3 acres of the site and includes approximately 36 residential units and associated infrastructure needed, including extending roadways, sewer, water, electricity, broadband internet, natural gas, roads, sidewalks, and green spaces for the neighborhood.

Phase 2 will involve development of approximately 3 acres, including the apartment complex and associated infrastructure.

Phase 3 will involve development of approximately 3.4 acres of land that includes approximately 20 residential units and associated infrastructure.

Phase 4 will involve development of approximately 1.2 acres of land that includes approximately 7 residential units and associated infrastructure.

There is approximately 1 acre of community area that will include a pavilion, playground and walking paths; it had not been determined in which phase this portion of the project will be completed.

The order of the phases had not been finalized at the time this document was developed.

Statement of Purpose and Need for the Proposal [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]:

The purpose of the proposed action ("Project") is to provide housing and related facilities to Little Shell tribal members. This will meet an immediate housing need, foster a sense of community, and enable tribal members to become positive agents of change in assisting one another and improving the Great Falls community.

Little Shell will construct the Project and associated infrastructure on the currently vacant ±18.4-acre parcel located in Cascade County to the east of 1301 Stuckey Road and the west of the Valley View Neighborhood in Great Falls, Montana.

There is significant need for this project due to the continual lack of local workforce housing. The housing crisis plagues indigenous populations disproportionally in Montana. According to the 2024 HUD *Annual Homelessness Assessment Report* (AHAR), the biggest driver of the crisis of homelessness is the widespread lack of affordable housing. In 2024, median rent was 18 percent higher than it was in 2020, and the National Low Income Housing Coalition estimates there is a shortage of 7.3 million units of affordable and available rental homes in the country. Particularly troubling is the report that family homelessness rose by 39.4 percent. Minority populations, including indigenous peoples, continue to be overrepresented in these statistics (HUD, AHAR 2024). Adequate, decent, and affordable housing is what Little Shell Tribal Housing will establish for their people.

Existing Conditions and Trends [24 CFR 58.40(a)]:

Existing environment (i.e., baseline conditions) within the project area are as follows:

- Site is vacant land, ±18.4 acres. The property was annexed and received approval for initial zoning of Planned Unit Development from the City of Great Falls in a Commission Meeting on July 21, 2026. It is located between an area zoned M-2 Mixed Use Transitional and a neighborhood zoned R-2 Medium Density Residential.
- Stuckey Road to the west is paved but does not have curb, gutters or sidewalks. Municipal water and sewer facilities exist in Stuckey Road and serve properties to the north, including the Little Shell Elders Center.
- Little Shell Tribe annexed a 4-acre parcel (west of this Project) into the city which includes the Food Sovereignty Building and new Tribal Ceremonial Center (2025) which are connected to existing utilities. That property has been zoned as M-2 Mixed Use Transitional, which allows light industrial, commercial, and residential uses.

- The Valley View Neighborhood, adjacent to the Project on the east, is an established residential area within the City of Great Falls and is zoned R-2 Single-family Medium Density.

This part of Great Falls has seen gradual growth over the past few decades. Much of this has been commercial development along the Northwest Bypass and Stuckey Road. The Project represents an infill development for the Great Falls community.

Visual Resources:
The Project would be constructed west of an existing roadway (15th St NW) between a M -2- zoned area to the west and an R-2 residential neighborhood (Valley View) to the east. Minor beneficial impact to no impact can be expected from neighborhood enhancements specific to a view shed.

Funding Information

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: Estimated $37,503,295.00
Estimated Total Tribal Transportation Funding: $6,253,424.00
Other Funding Amount: $17,717,617.00

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]**:**
Estimated Cost $61,474,336.00

Compliance with 24 CFR 50.4, 58.5, and 58.6 Laws and Authorities

Record below the compliance or conformance determinations for each statute, executive order, or regulation. Provide credible, traceable, and supportive source documentation for each authority. Where applicable, complete the necessary reviews or consultations and obtain or note applicable permits of approvals. Clearly note citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references. Attach additional documentation as appropriate.

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 and 58.6		
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes ☐ No ☒	***Compliance determined with 58.6*** ***• Runway Clear Zones, N/A*** Runway clear zones are all south of the Sun River, southwest of the subject site. *Supporting document: Document 1, Airport Hazards*
Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes ☐ No ☒	***Compliance determined with 58.6*** ***• Coastal Barrier Resource Act, N/A*** Site is not in a coastal state. *Supporting document: Document 2, Coastal Management Zone*
Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	Yes ☐ No ☒	***Compliance determined with 58.6*** ***• National Flood Insurance Program, N/A*** Site is outside the 500-year flood plain. *Supporting document: Document 3, Floodplain*

STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 & 58.5		
Clean Air Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	Yes ☐ No ☒	The project is not located in an EPA-designated non-attainment area or maintenance area for any of the NAAQS criteria pollutants. Construction and ground-disturbance activities will result in temporary emissions of particulate matter in the form of fugitive dust. Fugitive dust control measures (e.g., watering, windbreaks and barriers, vehicle access control) would be implemented as necessary during construction in accordance with the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan prepared using EPA's guide with Best Management Practices implemented for the proposed project. *Supporting document: Document 4, Air Quality*
Coastal Zone Management Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	Yes ☐ No ☒	The project is located within a state without coastal areas; therefore, there is no participation in the Coastal Zone Management Program. Based on the project location outside of coastal areas, this project is in compliance with the CZMA. *Supporting document: Document 2, Coastal Zone Management*
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)	Yes ☐ No ☒	The subject and adjacent properties are not listed on state and federal databases documenting releases of hazardous materials or petroleum products. Six sites with underground fuel storage tanks are present within one mile of the site, but no record of fuel release, air quality, mining, waste management, or water quality problem appears within one mile of the site on the Montana DEQ global information system (GIS). One RCRA violation site is in an inferred downgradient direction southwest of the subject site. *Supporting documents: Document 5, Contaminated Sites*

Endangered Species Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	Yes ☐ No ☒	There are no federal listed or proposed species nor any critical habitat on the project site, and therefore the proposed action will have "no effect" or "is not likely to adversely affect" any federally protected listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (i.e., plants or animals, fish, or invertebrates) nor adversely modify designated critical habitats. Species listed are common in the urban area. *Supporting document: Document 6, Montana Natural Heritage Program*
Explosive and Flammable Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	Yes ☐ No ☒	The project is located at an acceptable separation distance (ASD) from any above-ground explosive or flammable fuels or chemicals containers according to "Siting of HUD-Assisted Projects Near Hazardous Facilities: (Appendices F & G pp.51-52)." The closest such facilities are underground fuel storage tanks subject to periodic inspection. *Supporting document: Document 7, Flammable Hazards*
Farmlands Protection Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	Yes ☐ No ☒	Project site does include prime, though not unique farmland, as the soil series is farmland of statewide or local importance as identified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). It has not been cultivated, however. *Supporting document: Document 8, Soils Report.*
Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	Yes ☐ No ☒	The project does not involve property acquisition, management, construction, or improvements within a 100-year floodplain (Zones A or V) identified by FEMA maps and does not involve a "critical action" within a 500-year floodplain (Zone B). *Supporting document: Document 3, Floodplain.*

Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	Yes ☐ No ☒	Neither the Responsible Entity (RE) Little Shell Tribe (LST) nor the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) indicate there are any historic properties affected per 36 CFR 800.4. Of the various structures listed on reports for Section 3, none is on the subject site. Cultural resources survey has been completed. *Supporting documents: Document 9, SHPO report, Hill 57 Overview, Good Medicine Community Cultural Resource Survey.*
Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	Yes ☐ No ☒	The Great Falls International Airport is 1.75 miles southwest of the subject site. The BNSF Railway yard and Interstate 15 are 0.5 miles southwest of the site. The site is 565 feet from the Northwest Bypass, the nearest arterial. Construction noise would vary depending on the type of equipment used, the area that the action would occur in, and the distance from the noise source. The noise emanating from construction equipment would be localized, short-term, and intermittent during machinery operations. Heavy construction equipment would be operated periodically during construction; therefore, noise levels from the equipment would fluctuate throughout the day and night, should 24-hour construction occur. BMPs would be implemented during construction to offset potential impacts. *Supporting document: Figure 10, Noise.*
Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes ☐ No ☒	The project is not located within a U.S. EPA designated sole source aquifer watershed area per EPA Ground Water Office. The project need not be referred to EPA for evaluation according to the HUD-EPA Region IX Sole Source Aquifer Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), 1990. *Supporting document: Document 11, Sole Source Aquifers.*

Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes ☐ No ☒	The project does not involve new construction within or adjacent to wetlands, marshes, wet meadows, mud flats, or natural ponds per field observation and maps issued by the U.S. Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service or U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. *Supporting document: Figure 10, Wetlands.*
Wild and Scenic Rivers Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes ☐ No ☒	The project is not located within one mile of a listed wild and scenic river. The project will have no impact on the natural, free flowing, or scenic qualities of a river in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system. *Supporting document: Figure 11, Wild and Scenic Rivers.*
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	Yes ☐ No ☒	The Proposed Project area was chosen due to its proximity to Hill 57, and other Little Shell Tribal attributes, including the Little Shell Powwow Arbor, Bus Garage, Elders Center, Food Sovereignty Building, and the new Tribal Ceremonial Center (2025).

Environmental Assessment Factors [24 CFR 58.40; Ref. 40 CFR 1508.8 &1508.27]

Recorded below is the qualitative and quantitative significance of the effects of the proposal on the character, features, and resources of the project area. Each factor has been evaluated and documented, as appropriate and in proportion to its relevance to the proposed action. Verifiable source documentation has been provided and described in support of each determination, as appropriate. Credible, traceable, and supportive source documentation for each authority has been provided. Where applicable, the necessary reviews or consultations have been completed, and applicable permits or approvals have been obtained or noted. Citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references are clear. Additional documentation is attached, as appropriate. **All conditions, attenuation, or mitigation measures have been clearly identified.**

Impact Codes: Use an impact code from the following list to make the determination of impact for each factor.
(1) Minor beneficial impact
(2) No impact anticipated
(3) Minor Adverse Impact – May require mitigation
(4) Significant or potentially significant impact requiring avoidance or modification which may require an Environmental Impact Statement

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
LAND DEVELOPMENT		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	1	The proposed development is consistent with established area plans and is compatible with surrounding land uses, zoning, and the existing urban scale. The property is bordered by a mix of land types: to the north and south are vacant, undeveloped County lands; to the east is the existing Valley View neighborhood within City limits, zoned R-2 Single-Family Medium Density Residential, which requires a minimum lot size of 11,000 square feet. To the west, the land is within City limits and zoned M-2 and includes commercial facilities owned by the Little Shell Tribe, including a recently constructed Ceremonial Center and a Food Distribution Center. The project is received approval by the Great Falls City Commission on July 21, 2026 for annexation and Planned Unit Development (PUD) zoning with an underlying R-9 Mixed-Residential designation, which supports a variety of housing types. With an overall density of approximately 6.25 dwelling units per acre, the project is slightly more dense than the adjacent Valley View neighborhood. However, the design strategically transitions density across the site—placing single-family homes along the eastern edge to align with the existing neighborhood, while locating townhomes and multifamily buildings on the western portion of the property near the commercial use properties. In addition to housing, the project incorporates thoughtfully designed open spaces and community amenities that will enhance neighborhood connectivity, walkability, and overall visual appeal.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	3	According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey, there is one soil type within the project area (Kobar Silty Clay Loams). These soils are non-hydric soils that occur on alluvial fans. They are not prone to flooding, and the depth to the water table is greater than 80 inches. These soils belong to Hydraulic Soil Group C, which have slow infiltration rates with moderately high runoff potential when thoroughly wet (USDA 2007). Native vegetation is typically needlegrass, bluebunch wheatgrass, western wheatgrass, and forbs and shrubs. These soils are farmland of statewide importance, though, at the project area, they have been previously disturbed from historical use as a construction yard, recreation area, and Native occupation. Site soils can be problematic for building construction, which is typical of the Great Falls area. No impact to stream banks, stream channels, or wetlands are anticipated nor any impact to surface waters including those within the 500-year floodplain. Storm water runoff during construction would be managed under a MDEQ General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity. Removal of vegetation and grading during construction could indirectly result in soil erosion and sedimentation during possible storm water runoff events. Proper drainage would be maintained during the grading of individual lots. Any soils replaced would be landscaped or seeded with perennial or annual grasses including lawn grass varieties. Standard

		construction BMPs would be used, such as silt fences, straw wattles, and reinforced rock ditches, to mitigate sediment transport. The internal roadway is intended to meet City of Great Falls standards for design and construction. Neighborhood construction and roadways would increase the amount of impervious surface area. Impervious surfaces increase the volume and velocity of stormwater runoff. Runoff would be directed to a storm water retention basin in the south portion of the Project area. The Project would connect to the existing municipal utilities to include water, sewer, and storm drain. Disturbed areas would be reclaimed and revegetated following construction. No impacts to ground water quantity are anticipated by proposed project.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	Public health and safety are key concerns in any project. A major objective in constructing this project is to minimize the risk to public health and safety. The Little Shell Tribe conducted a Phase I ESA in accordance with ASTM Standard E1527-21 and Limited Phase II ESA to identify potential hazardous materials. Soil sample results indicated no metals, petroleum constituents, or herbicides reported above naturally occurring background levels or at concentrations that required cleanup of residential properties, and that NO asbestos-containing materials were present on site. No additional assessment is warranted (KLJ 2023). As a natural order of operation, the construction site will exhibit noise, dust, fuel exhaust, and possible traffic hazards. These negative impacts are temporary and will be mitigated by implementing BMPs, professional awareness, timely safety briefings, deliberate planning, and site preparation. Construction noise will vary and fluctuate depending on the type of equipment being utilized, time of day (ambient decibel environment), and BMPs. Proper implementation of BMPs will mitigate, reduce, and counteract potential noise impacts during construction. This Project, once completed, will offer a stabilized sustainable community development with positive long-term public health and safety improvements for the Little Shell Tribe and the City of Great Falls. Paved roads, quality homes, and connected utilities will increase the area asset base.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOMIC		
Employment and Income Patterns	1	This indigenous oriented housing development will create employment opportunity in the general construction and trades field. Once constructed, the housing will provide stable living accommodations for tribal members. This will add to the gainfully employed within the community and will contribute to the local economy.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	1	The population of this part of Great Falls will increase as a result of the additional housing. The housing will form an infill development between existing residential and mixed-use properties. By creating this housing development, LST is providing stable and affordable housing that will ensure tribal elders are able to age in place, will help tribal veteran service members find homes, will the LST believes it will encourage low income members to step onto a secure path and will provide community connection with accessibility to wraparound services for LST members to regain or seek purpose and become whole. The Project is the Tribe's first housing community development. Historically, the Little Shell people were known in Montana as the "Landless Indians" without a community to call home. The Project is a pivotal turning point for Little Shell tribal members as the Tribe will be able to provide homes for its members on tribally owned land. With completion of the project, the Little Shell tribal members will no longer find themselves as displaced and landless but rather a recognized nation whose people can find spirit, strength, hope, culture, community, and a place to call home.
Environmental Justice	1	The subject site for the project is a "Greenfield" site with no record of contamination. In addition, it has cultural significance to the LST. This development will establish a place for Little Shell culture and will be a community asset for current and future generations.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	1	The Project will enhance access to educational and cultural tribal facilities due to improved infrastructure and increased community engagement opportunities. No significant strain on existing resources is expected. The LST Ceremonial Center began construction in 2025 and is located west of the project site. Development of the subject property for LST members will likely increase use of the Little Shell Tribe Ceremonial Center.
Commercial Facilities	1	Minor positive impacts are anticipated due to potential increases in foot traffic, economic activity, or business visibility, without placing additional burdens on existing commercial infrastructure.
Health Care and Social Services	1	The project has the propensity to improve access to or coordination with local health and social services upon development of a more centralized community. The increase in population/service demand is anticipated and manageable.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	1	Solid waste management is expected to conform to the municipal service, providing regular and reliable services. Recycling practices would be promoted through community awareness. Existing systems are adequate to handle projected requirements, though minor modifications may be needed to enhance sustainability.
Waste Water / Sanitary Sewers	1	Sanitary sewer systems would be extended from the municipal sewer system and designed to accommodate the additional demand. Where applicable, infrastructure upgrades may lead to improved efficiency or reduced risk of overflows.
Water Supply	1	Water supply would be provided to the development as an extension of the municipal water system would be designed for the community. Conservation measures would be encouraged. Overall demand is not anticipated to exceed current capacity.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	1	The project may result in minor enhancements to public safety through improved accessibility or coordination with emergency services. No significant increase in demand is foreseen.

Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	Open space would be a priority in the design of the Project. While existing open space will be developed, benefits are expected in terms of access to or use of open space and recreational areas.
Transportation and Accessibility	1	Minor improvements in transportation efficiency and accessibility are expected, including better street connectivity and pedestrian infrastructure. The project would support sustainable and inclusive mobility without creating congestion.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The site contains no unique natural features or surface or ground water resources. The site consists of typical Northern Plains prairie grassland.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	Construction activities will result in removal of native vegetation and result in localized soil disturbance. During this time, noxious weeds could spread from soil redistribution and would need to be controlled by grubbing or spraying. Additionally, wildlife interaction in the area would be temporarily interrupted. Because this is a rural-urban interface setting, the flora and fauna are predominant species adapted to the modified environment.
Other Factors	1	The Little Shell culture will be a focus for the area and community. In the past, cultural involvement was necessarily more abstract and inaccessible. With the housing development and Ceremonial Center located in the same vicinity, it will be more tangible and holistic.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
CLIMATE AND ENERGY		
Climate Change Impacts	2	Sustainable practices would be promoted from foundation to rooftop and would allow development to occur while minimizing the carbon footprint. Continued operations will encourage practicing mindful consumption of goods, waste mitigation, energy consumption, and increasing resiliency.
Energy Efficiency	1	Natural landscaping where applicable will decrease demand for landscape watering. Other means of energy conservation will include use of energy efficient appliances, implementing solar features (passive or active), and proper insulation and weather sealing.

Additional Studies Performed:

Field Inspection (Date and completed by)**:**

12/09/2025, Peter Klevberg, PE, Environmental Department Manager, TD&H Engineering

Peter Klevberg, P.E., Environmental Services Manager for TD&H Engineering, visited the site on December 9, 2025, to observe site characteristics. Observations indicated the site is well vegetated with native grasses. There are some areas of knapweed infestation, especially the northwest corner of the parcel. Along the south side of the subject property is the abandoned Milwaukee Road railroad grade and a secondary power line. Minor erosion appears associated with recreational trails apparently used by motorcyclists. A large pile of fill material and a smaller pile of concrete rubble occupy the area along the boundary between the new cultural center and the undeveloped subject parcel. Minor litter was observed, primarily along Stuckey Road with some blown over onto the site.

The Valley View housing development is present near the east side of the subject site. Commercial development is present southeast and to the west side on both sides of Stuckey Road. The south side parallels the Northwest Bypass, a major arterial. Hill 57 is north and east of the subject site.

List of Sources, Agencies and Persons Consulted [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]**:**
Montana Department of Environmental Quality – Craig Jones
Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks – Stevie Burton
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Helena Field Office – Jake Martin
Little Shell Tribal Historic Preservation Office – Duane Reid
List of Permits Obtained:
N/A

Public Outreach [24 CFR 50.23 & 58.43]**:**
September 13, 2026-October 13, 2026 open for public comments.

Project Schedule:
Annexation/Zoning Application to City: Winter 2025/2026, Approved by City Commission July 21, 2026
Phase 1 Construction Estimated: Start Spring 2027
Phase 2 Construction Estimated: Anticipated to Start in 2028 or 2029
Phase 3 Construction Estimated: Anticipated to Start in 2030 or 2031
Phase 4 Construction: Future - TBD

Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]**:**
The Project is not anticipated to directly impact adjacent properties or significantly impact existing local communities or natural resources. It is a reasonable generalization based on regulatory oversight by HUD, that the proposed action is not unique in its attempts to avoid, minimize, or mitigate harm to the environment through the use of BMPs and site-specific environmental commitments.

Alternatives [24 CFR 58.40(e); 40 CFR 1508.9]
The Project as described above constitutes the Preferred Alternative. The Preferred Alternative would involve developing housing on the ±18.4-acre site obtained by the Little Shell Tribe. Alternatives to the Preferred Alternative would be developing the Project elsewhere or not going forward with the Project.

Alternative #1
Alternative #1 would consist of constructing the proposed development in another part of the city. A different site could be either another infill site or agricultural land on the outskirts of Great Falls. The former would have similar disadvantages to the preferred alternative but fewer advantages. In particular, the common cultural community character of the development would be lost, and the environmental benefits of a walkable community would also be lost. In addition to these disadvantages, a development of agricultural land on the outskirts of the city would result in net habitat destruction for native plant and animal species. As included in Document 14 in the Appendix, the LST already has possession of the subject site, and Alternative #1 would require obtaining property elsewhere. Because there is no apparent advantage over the preferred alternative and definite disadvantages, Alternative #1 is not further considered.

No Action Alternative [24 CFR 58.40(e)]:
Under the No Action Alternative, the Little Shell Tribe would not develop the ±18.4-acre property as a housing development. The property would remain vacant for the foreseeable future. There would be no environmental impacts associated with the No Action Alternative, but neither would there be any additional work force housing available for the Little Shell Tribe. The problem which the Preferred Alternative is to solve would remain unaddressed.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions:

Mitigation Measures and Conditions [40 CFR 1505.2(c)]
Summarize below all mitigation measures adopted by the Responsible Entity to reduce, avoid, or eliminate adverse environmental impacts and to avoid non-compliance or non-conformance with the above-listed authorities and factors. These measures/conditions must be incorporated into project contracts, development agreements, and other relevant documents. The staff responsible for implementing and monitoring mitigation measures should be clearly identified in the mitigation plan.

Affected Resource Area	Short-Term Cumulative Impacts	Long-Term Cumulative Impacts
Air Quality, Recreation, Public Health & Safety	Ground-disturbing activities (e.g., grubbing, earthwork, grading) could result in temporary impacts, such as increase in fugitive dust, noise, and traffic related to construction. Contractors will be required to provide dust suppression and control of traffic ingress and egress. Revegetation will be required at conclusion of the project.	Upon completion of the project, disturbed ground would be improved with buildings, structures, roadways, revegetation, and storm water mitigation. Fugitive dust emissions would no longer be a concern.
Water Resources, Vegetation	Removal of vegetation and ground-disturbing activities could indirectly result in erosion of disturbed soils and transport of sediment into nearby surface water during storm events. Contractors would be required to have a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) and utilize BMP's.	There would be an increase in impervious surface area from the construction of the buildings and associated roadways. Storm water mitigation practices would create a graded pathway for runoff to flow to a retention basin, preventing sediment transport off site.
Socioeconomics & Environmental Justice	There would be an increased need for local construction workers, resulting in an increase in employment opportunities in the area.	The proposed action is expected to increase the amount of affordable housing in Great Falls area for the members of the Little Shell Tribe. The addition of housing will help low-income individuals/families throughout the tribal community. This would make permanent employment more feasible for tribal members.
Living Resources	Construction activities would result in the removal of vegetation and disturbance of soil, temporarily increasing the potential for erosion and sedimentation until revegetation and proper storm water mitigation have occurred. Construction would have the potential to indirectly result in the spread of noxious weeds, as seeds may be redistributed during construction. The contractors would be required to have a weed control plan. Temporary disturbance would have the potential to cause wildlife species to avoid the area; however, most wildlife species would be expected to quickly return once the construction activities cease.	Long-term impacts are not anticipated. Due to the existing rural-urban interface nature of the project area, plant and wildlife species inhabiting the area are predominantly generalist species that have adapted to life in human environments. While the development may disperse species from this site, it is likely that they will be able to occupy sites nearby with similar levels of development.

Determination:

☒ **Finding of No Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(1); 40 CFR 1508.27]
The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

☐ **Finding of Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(2); 40 CFR 1508.27]
The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Preparer Signature: _____ Date: 09/09/26

Name/Title/Organization: Peter Klevberg, P.E. / TD&H Engineering

Certifying Officer Signature: Sidney Curnow Date: 09/09/26

Name/Title: Sidney Curnow, Housing Director

This original, signed document and related supporting material must be retained on file by the Responsible Entity in an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the activity/project (ref: 24 CFR Part 58.38) and in accordance with recordkeeping requirements for the HUD program(s).

APPENDIX A
SITE PLANS AND FIGURES

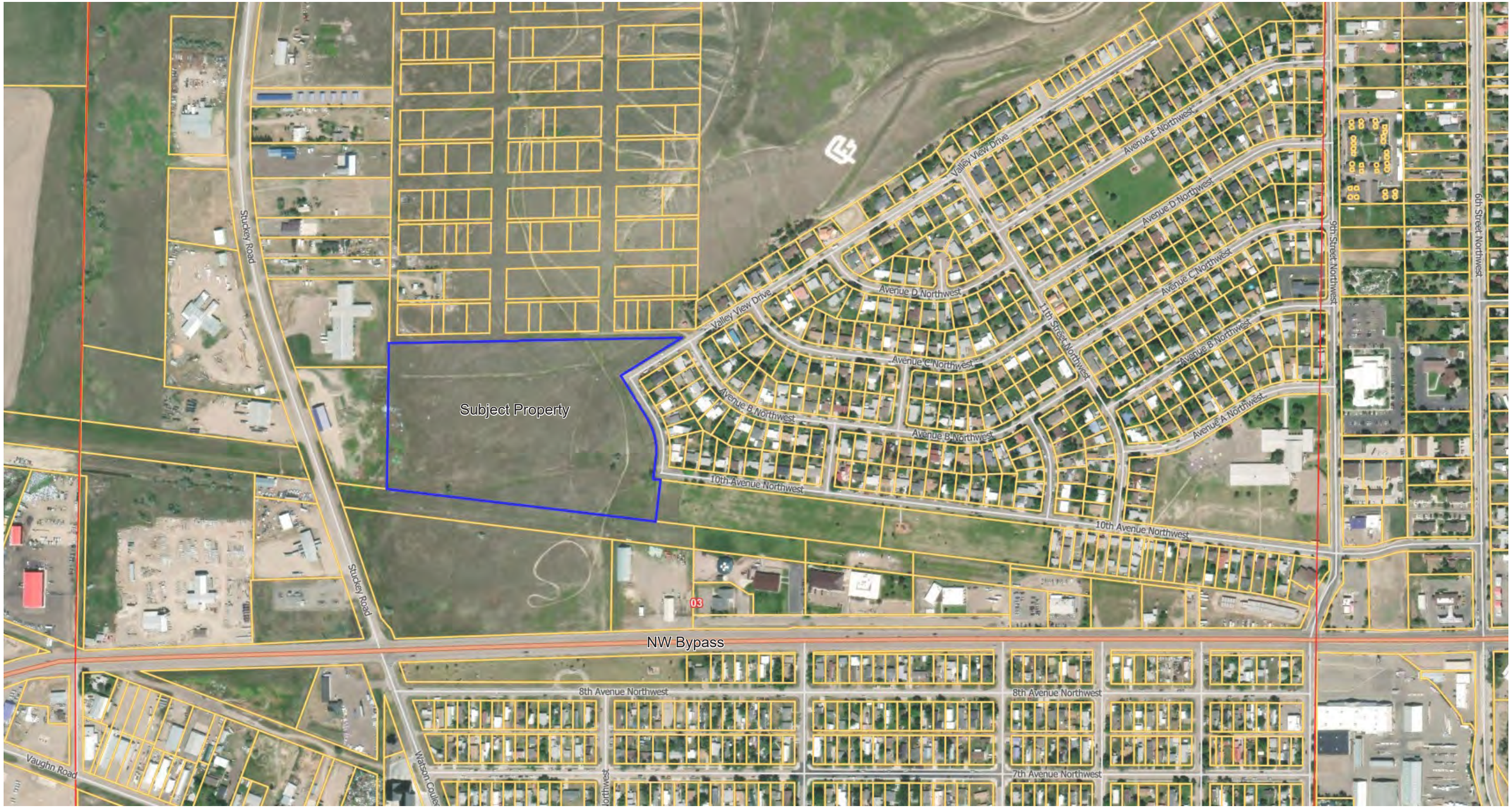
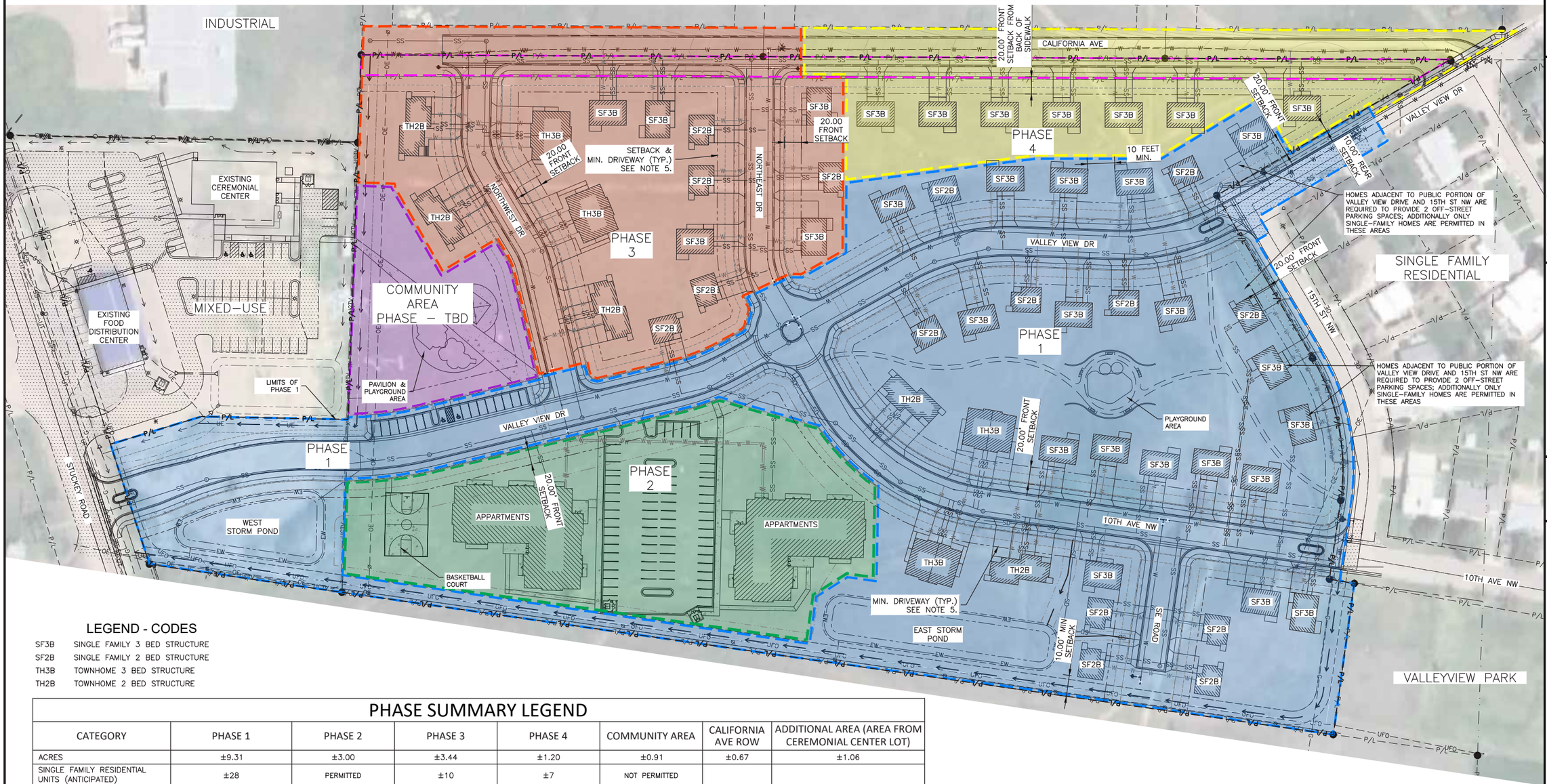


Image Courtesy of Montana Cadastral

North
Not to Scale

GOOD MEDICINE PHASING PLAN



LEGEND - CODES

SF3B	SINGLE FAMILY 3 BED STRUCTURE
SF2B	SINGLE FAMILY 2 BED STRUCTURE
TH3B	TOWNHOME 3 BED STRUCTURE
TH2B	TOWNHOME 2 BED STRUCTURE

PHASE SUMMARY LEGEND

CATEGORY	PHASE 1	PHASE 2	PHASE 3	PHASE 4	COMMUNITY AREA	CALIFORNIA AVE ROW	ADDITIONAL AREA (AREA FROM CEREMONIAL CENTER LOT)
ACRES	±9.31	±3.00	±3.44	±1.20	±0.91	±0.67	±1.06
SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL UNITS (ANTICIPATED)	±28	PERMITTED	±10	±7	NOT PERMITTED		
TOWNHOME UNITS (2 UNITS PER BUILDING) (ANTICIPATED)	±8 (2 STRUCTURES)	PERMITTED	±10 (5 STRUCTURES)	PERMITTED	NOT PERMITTED		
MULTI–FAMILY UNITS	NOT PERMITTED	50 MAX	NOT PERMITTED	NOT PERMITTED	NOT PERMITTED		
OTHER USES (SEE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS)	PER DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS	PER DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS	PER DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS	PER DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS	PERMITTED		
ADDITIONAL AMENITIES	STORM PONDS/PLAYGROUND/ OPEN SPACE/WALKING PATHS, ETC.				PAVILION/PLAYGROUND/ BASKETBALL COURT/ WALKING PATHS, ETC.		
NOTE: ACREAGE OF ORIGINAL LOT 18.4; ACREAGE OF NEW LOT 19.46.							

LEGEND

- PROPERTY LINE
- UTILITY EASEMENT (PUBLIC/PRIVATE)
- BUILDING SETBACK
- CALIFORNIA AVE ROW AREA
- PHASE 1
- PHASE 2
- PHASE 3
- PHASE 4
- COMMUNITY AREA

NOTES:
1. AREAS SHOWN WITH SINGLE FAMILY DETACHED HOMES AND TOWNHOMES MAY ADJUST DUE TO FINAL DESIGN CONSTRAINTS OF EACH PHASE, THESE TWO USES ARE CONSIDERED INTERCHANGEABLE IN ALL AREAS. MAXIMUM PERMITTED DENSITY IN THESE AREAS ARE A TOTAL OF 65 UNITS; ANY MIX OF SINGLE–FAMILY AND TOWNHOME IS PERMITTED AND NOT CONSIDERED A SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE.
2. REFER TO CIVIL 30% PLANS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT AND INFRASTRUCTURE INFORMATION.
3. REFER TO DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR LANDSCAPE AND LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS, LANDSCAPE AND LIGHTING PLAN TO BE PROVIDED WITH BUILDING PERMIT SUBMITTAL, BY PHASE.
4. REFER TO CIVIL FOR ADDITIONAL LEGEND ITEMS.
5. 20' MINIMUM DRIVEWAY LENGTH REQUIRED FROM BACK OF SIDEWALK ON ALL SINGLE FAMILY AND TOWNHOME UNITS.

0 60' 120' 180'
SCALE

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

REVISION | DATE | REV

TD&H Engineering
406.761.3010 • tdhengineering.com
1800 RIVER DR. NO., GREAT FALLS, MONTANA 59401

DRAWN BY: CDF
DESIGNED BY: NCY/JCC
QUALITY CHECK:
DATE: 03/20/2026
JOB NO. 24-126
FIELDBOOK

GOOD MEDICINE HOUSING
GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

PHASING PLAN

24-126 PHASING.DWG
SHEET E-5

PAGE SETUP 2023_TDH_22X34_AS_11X17_L
PRINTED 2026-03-20, BY JANA COOPER, I:\2024\GIF\24-126 LITTLE SHELL TRIBE DEV MASTER\06_CADD PH 1\CIVIL\FIGURES\PHASING.DWG

Image Courtesy of LSE Architects

APPENDIX B
DOCUMENT ATTACHMENTS

DOCUMENT 1
AIRPORT HAZARDS

FAA Airport Division – Runway Protection Zones

550 - Runway Protection Zones

Overview

Runway protection zones are a trapezoidal area “off the end of the runway end that serves to enhance the protection of people and property on the ground” in the event an aircraft lands or crashes beyond the runway end. Runway Protection Zones underlie a portion of the approach closest to the airport.

Many people have confused the RPZ with the need for Object Free Areas (OFA), Obstacle Free Zones (OFZ), Object clearing criteria, and Part 77 requirements. Each of these serves distinct purposes and are not all coincident.

While the RPZ also has limitations on obstructions (because it lies below the approach surface and because it includes safety areas and obstacle free areas), the primary purpose of the RPZ is the protection of people and property on the ground.

Airport Property and the RPZ

Under FAA design criteria (which applies to all obligated airports), the airport must own the landing area.

Secondly the airport owner must have sufficient interest in the Runway Protection Zones to protect the Runway Protection Zones from **both** obstructions and incompatible land use.

Finally the airport owner must strive to attain compatible zoning around the airport in order to prevent incompatible land uses that:

- Could cause sufficient conflict that endangers the airport
- Cause it to be closed or
- Require substantial remedial investment to purchase conflicting developed property.

Sponsor may attain sufficient interest in the Runway Protection Zones in three primary ways.

(1) The first and the preferred method is for the airport to purchase the approach areas in fee. Ownership in fee is preferred because it provides maximum control for the airport.
(2) The second is through purchase of an easement (or a combination of easement and zoning).
(3) The third alternative is to rely upon adequate zoning which should be enacted even if fee or easement ownership is in place.

FAA Advisory Circular 150/5300-13 states this ownership policy as follows:

> “All ... existing and planned airport elements including the following should be on airport property. (A) Object Free areas, (B) **Runway Protection Zones** (C) Areas under ...Part 77 ... imaginary surfaces out where the surfaces obtain a height of at least 35 feet above the primary surface; and (d) Areas, other than those which can be adequately controlled by zoning, easements, or other means to mitigate potential incompatible uses...Such control includes clearing RPZ areas (and maintaining them clear) of incompatible uses and activities.”

Through experience we have learned that it is usually less expensive in the long run to acquire the RPZ in fee rather than acquiring an easement. This is because an easement must be very restrictive in order to provide adequate control unless zoning is also very restrictive.

Compatible Land Use

Compatible land use within the RPZ is generally restricted to such land uses as agricultural, golf course, and similar uses that do not involve congregations of people or construction of buildings or other improvements that may be obstructions.

> "The following land use criteria apply within the RPZ: (a) While it is desirable to clear all objects from the RPZ, some uses are permitted, provided they do not attract wildlife, are outside the Runway OFA, and do not interfere with navigational aids. Automobile parking facilities, although discouraged, may be permitted, provided the parking facilities and any associated appurtenances, in addition to meeting all of the preceding conditions, are located outside of the object free area extension. **(B) Land uses prohibited from the RPZ are: residences and places of public assembly. (Churches, schools, hospitals, office buildings, shopping centers, and other uses with similar concentrations of persons typify places of public assembly.)"**

In cases where the land is already developed and it would be too expensive to acquire the existing development, this policy is a recommendation to the landowner i.e. it is a notice to the landowner that the FAA considers such uses incompatible.

> "Where it is determined to be impractical for the airport owner to acquire and plan the land uses within the entire RPZ, the RPZ land use standards have recommendation status for that portion of the RPZ not controlled by the airport owner."

Where such land is vacant, it is rarely impractical to acquire the land in the RPZ. Even if the cost of the land seems to be prohibitive the airport owner is expected to exercise sufficient control through zoning or easements to prevent prohibited land uses.

It is FAA policy to object to incompatible land uses that are proposed for property within the RPZ whether or not the airport owns the land and such objection should be anticipated. In particular when we receive a proposal for an airspace study under Part 157 for the RPZ **we will object when that proposal conflicts with an airport planning or design standard or recommendation.**

FAA Recommendation

We recommend that Airport owners and managers review the Airport Layout Plan for conformity with the above statement. Airports that do not own the entire RPZ should consider the need to acquire such land if there is any possibility that incompatible land uses could occur with in the RPZ. In particular easements should be reviewed to ensure that land uses are restricted not just obstructions. Where necessary, requests should be made to the appropriate zoning authority to rezone such land to prevent future incompatible use. Where neither zoning nor easements are adequate the RPZ should be acquired in fee. Airport layout plans should be revised if necessary to show such future land acquisition so that it is eligible under the Airport Improvement Program. An airport can acquire such land and be reimbursed at a later date from a future AIP grant, if funds become available, such land acquisition is shown on an approved ALP, and the FAA determines that such land is eligible.

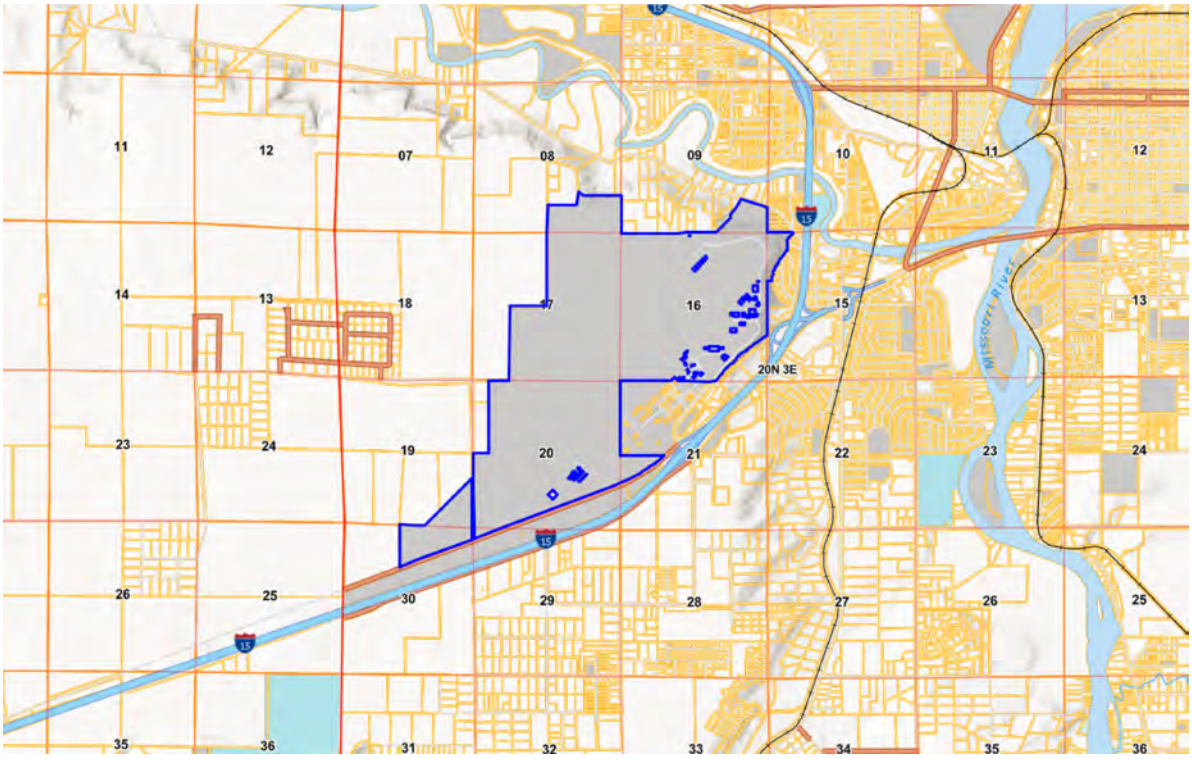
RESOURCES Advisory Circulars

- **AC 150/5300-13 Airport Design**

Cadastral Property Report

Tax Year: 2025

Scale: 1:61820.74 Basemap: Cadastral Application Base Map



Summary

Primary Information

Property Category: RP

Subcategory: Government Property

Geocode: 02-3015-16-1-01-01-0000

Assessment Code: 0001898350

Primary Owner:
GF INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
2800 TERMINAL DR
GREAT FALLS, MT 59404-5501
Note: See Owners section for all owners

Property Address:
2800 AIRPORT AVE
GREAT FALLS, MT 59404

Certificate of Survey:

Legal Description: S16, T20 N, R03 E, PARCEL 1 OF COS #5051 SEC 8 ,9, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 29 & 30

Last Modified: 7/17/2025 22:44:33 PM

Cadastral Property Report

Tax Year: 2025

General Property Information

Neighborhood: 202.006.2	Property Type: Exempt Property
Living Units: 0	Levy District: 02-4898-1CTID6
Zoning:	Ownership: 100
LinkedProperty: No linked properties exist for this property	
Exemptions: No exemptions exist for this property	
Condo Ownership: General: 0	Limited: 0

Property Factors

Topography: n/a	Fronting: n/a
Utilities: n/a	Parking Type: n/a
Access: n/a	Parking Quantity: n/a
Location: n/a	Parking Proximity: n/a

Land Summary

Land Type:	Acres:	Value:
Grazing	0	0
Fallow	0	0
Irrigated	0	0
Continuous Crop		
Wild Hay	0	0
Farmsite	0	0
ROW	0	0
NonQual Land	0	0
Total Ag Land	0	0
Total Forest Land	0	0
Total Market Land	1790.472	11827194

Deed Information

Deed Date	Book	Page	Recorded Date	Document Number	Document Type
5/7/2019			5/16/2019	R0370489 EASEMENT	Other
10/12/2016			10/19/2016	R0329948	Quit Claim Deed
10/30/1997	0298	01477	N/A		
N/A			3/23/2018	R0352838 EASEMENT	Other

Owners

Cadastral Property Report

Tax Year: 2025

Party #1

Default Information:	GF INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY 2800 TERMINAL DR GREAT FALLS, MT 59404-5501
Ownership %:	100
Primary Owner:	Yes
Interest Type:	Conversion
Last Modified:	3/15/2017 15:7:47 PM

Appraisals

Appraisal History

Tax Year	Land Value	Building Value	Total Value	Method
2025	11827194	50000000	61827194	COST
2024	290952306	50000000	340952306	COST
2023	290952306	50000000	340952306	COST

Market Land

Market Land Item #1

Method: Sqft	Type: Primary Site
Width: n/a	Depth: n/a
Square Feet: 34433396	Acres: n/a
Class Code: 2153	Value: 5293259

Market Land Item #2

Method: Sqft	Type: Residual
Width: n/a	Depth: n/a
Square Feet: 43559564	Acres: n/a
Class Code: 2153	Value: 6533935

Dwellings

No dwellings exist for this parcel

Cadastral Property Report

Tax Year: 2025

Other Buildings

No other buildings exist for this parcel

Commercial

No commercial buildings exist for this parcel

Ag/Forest Land

No ag/forest land exists for this parcel

Conservation Easements

No conservation easements exist for this parcel

Disclaimer

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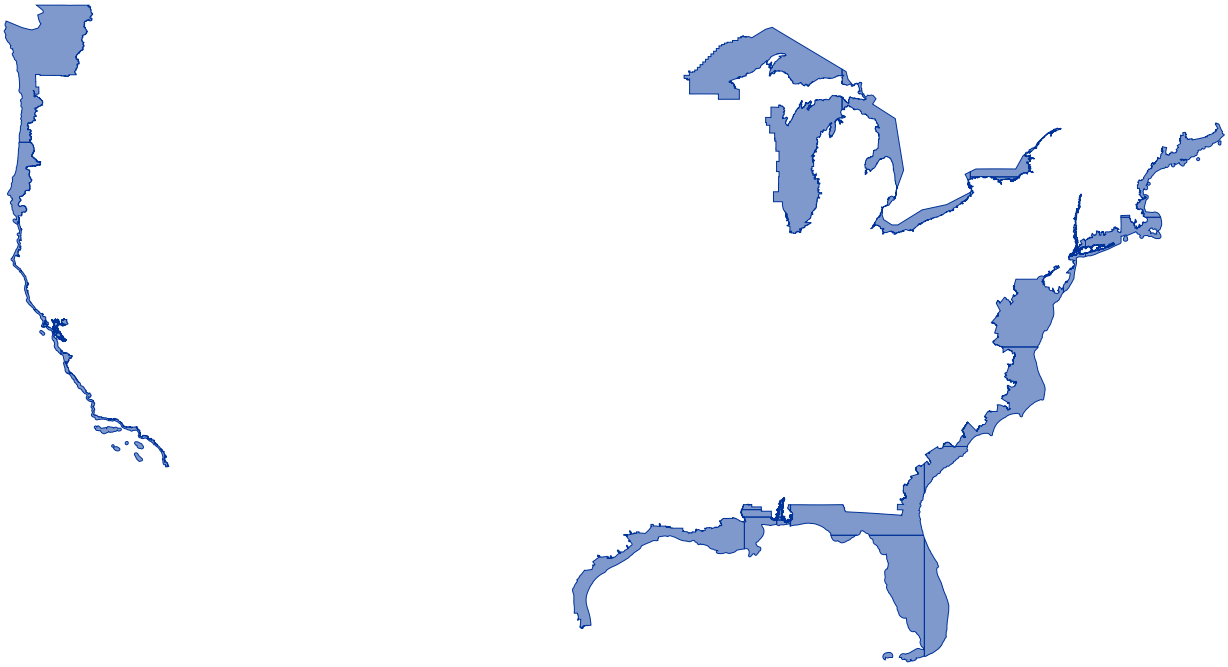
DOCUMENT 2
COASTAL MANAGEMENT ZONE



0km	625.0km	1250.0km	Scale: 1:40,000,000 (A4)	Projection: WGS 84 / Pseudo-Mercator

US Coastal Zone Management Act Boundary

License: Unknown

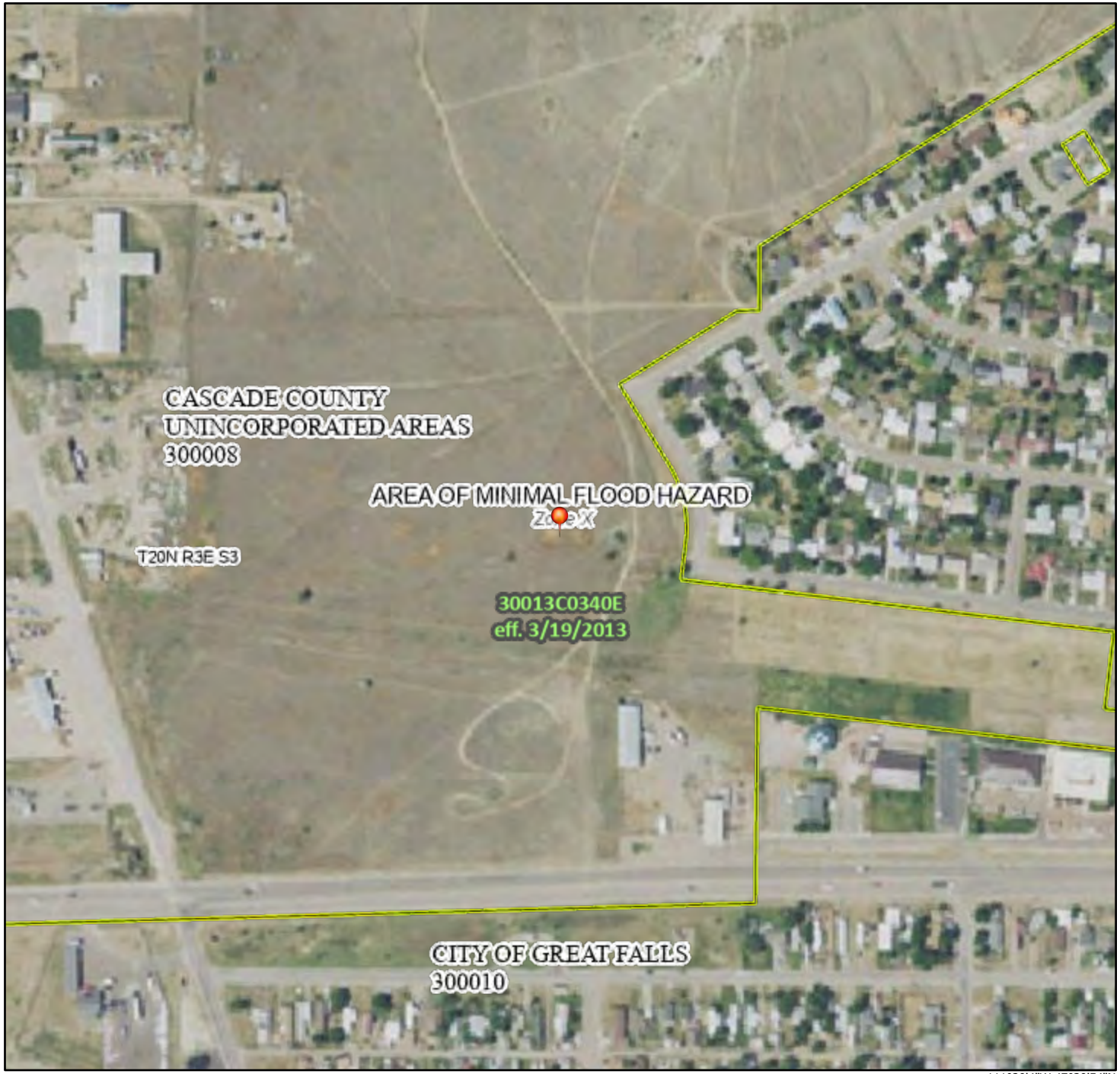
Koordinates	Created on 22 Jul 2025	Created By: Ryan Vosen	Source URL: https://koordinates.com

DOCUMENT 3
FLOODPLAIN

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette

FEMA

111°20'42"W 47°31'18"N



0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet

1:6,000

111°20'4"W 47°30'54"N

Basemap Imagery Source: USGS National Map 2023

Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS
- Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) *Zone A, V, A99*
- With BFE or Depth *Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR*
- Regulatory Floodway

OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile *Zone X*
- Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard *Zone X*
- Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. *Zone X*
- Area with Flood Risk due to Levee *Zone D*

OTHER AREAS
- NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard *Zone X*
- Effective LOMRs
- Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard *Zone D*

GENERAL STRUCTURES
- Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
- Levee, Dike, or Floodwall

OTHER FEATURES
- 20.2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance
- 17.5 Water Surface Elevation
- Coastal Transect
- Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
- Limit of Study
- Jurisdiction Boundary
- Coastal Transect Baseline
- Profile Baseline
- Hydrographic Feature

MAP PANELS
- Digital Data Available
- No Digital Data Available
- Unmapped

N

The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 7/25/2025 at 5:21 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

DOCUMENT 4
AIR QUALITY

Summary Nonattainment Area Population Exposure Report

Data is current as of July 31, 2025

Ordered by state(s)
The NO_2 nonattainment area became a maintenance area on September 22, 1998. All Carbon Monoxide areas were redesignated to maintenance areas as of September 27, 2010. The 8-hour Ozone (1997) standard was revoked on April 6, 2015 and the 1-hour Ozone (1979) standard was revoked on June 15, 2005.
Download National Dataset: dbf | xls | Data dictionary (PDF)

State(s)	General Area Name (see note)	2010 Population in 1000s (area count)									
		8-Hour Ozone (2015)	8-Hour Ozone (2008)	PM-2.5 (2012)	PM-2.5 (2006)	PM-2.5 (1997)	PM-10 (1987)	SO_2 (2010)	SO_2 (1971)	Lead (2008)	Lead (1978)
AK	Fairbanks				87(1)						
AZ	Douglas/Paul Spur (Cochise County)						17(1)				
AZ	Hayden/Miami						26(2)	20(2)	5(1)	5(1)	
AZ	Nogales						30(1)				
AZ	Phoenix-Mesa	3,945(1)	3,850(1)				3,853(1)				
AZ	Rillito (Pima County)						1(1)				
AZ	West Pinal				52(1)		283(1)				
AZ	Yuma	87(1)					101(1)				
CA	Amador and Calaveras Cos (Central Mountain Cos)	84(2)	46(1)								
CA	Chico	220(1)	220(1)								
CA	Imperial County	175(1)	175(1)	154(1)	154(1)						
CA	Los Angeles-South Coast Air Basin	15,704(3)	15,723(3)	15,716(1)	15,716(1)	15,716(1)				9,437(1)	
CA	Mariposa and Tuolumne Cos (Southern Mountain Cos)	74(2)	18(1)								
CA	Mono County						0(1)				
CA	Nevada County (Western Part)	82(1)	82(1)								
CA	Owens Valley						7(1)				
CA	Plumas County			6(1)							
CA	Sacramento Metro	2,240(1)	2,241(1)		2,206(1)						
CA	San Diego	3,077(1)	3,095(1)								

State(s)	General Area Name (see note)	2010 Population in 1000s (area count)									
		8-Hour Ozone (2015)	8-Hour Ozone (2008)	PM-2.5 (2012)	PM-2.5 (2006)	PM-2.5 (1997)	PM-10 (1987)	SO_2 (2010)	SO_2 (1971)	Lead (2008)	Lead (1978)
CA	San Francisco-Bay Area	6,969(1)	6,973(1)		6,971(1)						
CA	San Joaquin Valley	3,937(2)	3,938(2)	3,842(1)	3,842(1)	3,842(1)	126(1)				
CA	San Luis Obispo	1(1)	2(1)								
CA	Searles Valley						4(1)				
CA	Southeast Desert Modified AQMA	1,292(2)	1,294(2)				495(2)				
CA	Tuscan Buttes	0(1)	0(1)								
CA	Ventura County	821(1)	823(1)								
CA	Yuba City	0(1)									
CO	Denver-Boulder-Greeley-Ft. Collins-Loveland	3,331(1)	3,330(1)								
CT	Greater Connecticut	1,629(1)	1,629(1)								
DC-MD-VA	Washington	5,136(1)									
GU	Piti-Cabras							6(1)	1(1)		
GU	Tanguisson Power Plant								1(1)		
IA	Muscatine County							30(1)			
ID	Pocatello						1(1)				
IL-IN-WI	Chicago-Joliet-Napier	9,075(1)									
IN	Fort Wayne-Huntington-Auburn							21(1)			
KS	Salina									0(1)	
KY	Henderson-Webster Counties							7(1)			
KY-IN	Louisville	876(1)									
LA	Evangeline Parish							0(1)			
LA	New Orleans							36(1)			
MA-NH	Boston-Worcester-Manchester		17(1)								
MD	Baltimore	2,663(1)	2,663(1)					990(1)			
MI	Allegan County	47(1)									
MI	Benton Harbor	157(1)									

State(s)	General Area Name (see note)	2010 Population in 1000s (area count)									
		8-Hour Ozone (2015)	8-Hour Ozone (2008)	PM-2.5 (2012)	PM-2.5 (2006)	PM-2.5 (1997)	PM-10 (1987)	SO_2 (2010)	SO_2 (1971)	Lead (2008)	Lead (1978)
MI	Detroit-Ann Arbor							306(2)			
MI	Muskegon	147(1)									
MN	Minneapolis-St. Paul									9(1)	
MO	Iron, Dent, and Reynolds Counties									0(1)	
MO	New Madrid County							0(1)			
MO-IL	St. Louis	2,488(1)								5(1)	3(1)
MT	Billings/Laurel								7(1)		
MT	Lame Deer						1(1)				
MT	Polson (Lake County)						4(1)				
MT	Ronan (Lake County)						3(1)				
NV	Las Vegas	1,892(1)									
NY	Jamestown		135(1)								
NY	St. Lawrence County							12(1)			
NY-NJ-CT	New York-N. New Jersey-Long Island	20,217(1)	20,217(1)								
OH	Canton-Massillon									6(1)	
OH	Cleveland-Akron-Elyria	2,780(1)									
OR	Klamath Falls				47(1)						
PA	Clearfield and Indiana Counties							93(1)			
PA	Lancaster		519(1)								
PA	Pittsburgh-New Castle		2,356(1)	1,223(1)	21(1)	21(1)		20(2)	5(1)	18(1)	
PA	Reading		411(1)							49(2)	
PA	Warren County							18(1)			
PA-NJ	Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton		712(1)								
PA-NJ-DE-MD	Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City	7,437(1)	7,634(2)								
PR	Arecibo									32(1)	
PR	Guayama-Salinas							23(1)			
PR	San Juan							275(1)			
TN	Johnson City-Kingsport-Bristol							15(1)			
TX	Dallas-Fort Worth	6,202(1)	6,280(1)								

State(s)	General Area Name (see note)	2010 Population in 1000s (area count)									
		8-Hour Ozone (2015)	8-Hour Ozone (2008)	PM-2.5 (2012)	PM-2.5 (2006)	PM-2.5 (1997)	PM-10 (1987)	SO_2 (2010)	SO_2 (1971)	Lead (2008)	Lead (1978)
TX	Fairfield							4(1)			
TX	Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown	5,773(1)	5,892(1)								
TX	Howard County							0(1)			
TX	Hutchinson County							15(1)			
TX	Mount Pleasant							0(1)			
TX	Navarro County							2(1)			
TX	San Antonio	1,715(1)									
TX	Tatum							2(1)			
TX-NM	El Paso-Las Cruces	813(1)					652(2)				
UT	Provo	516(1)			518(1)						
UT	Salt Lake City	1,616(1)			1,665(1)				1,030(1)		
UT	Tooele County								58(1)		
UT	Uinta Basin	47(1)									
VA	Giles County							0(1)			
WI	Milwaukee-Racine	1,648(1)									
WI	Sheboygan	68(1)									
WV-OH	Parkersburg-Marietta							4(1)			
WY	Upper Green River Basin		11(1)								
		2010 Population in 1000s (area count) by Pollutant									
Total Estimated 2010 Population in Nonattainment Areas (1000's)		8-Hour Ozone (2015)	8-Hour Ozone (2008)	PM-2.5 (2012)	PM-2.5 (2006)	PM-2.5 (1997)	PM-10 (1987)	SO_2 (2010)	SO_2 (1971)	Lead (2008)	Lead (1978)
Across All Criteria Pollutants: 121,102		114,981 (46)	90,288 (34)	20,942 (5)	31,280 (11)	19,579 (3)	5,605 (20)	1,900 (28)	1,106 (7)	9,561 (11)	3 (1)

The Summary Population Exposure Report is a summary of the population living in an area that is in nonattainment for at least one of the NAAQS.

Area Name:

The "State(s) Area Name" column contains a common or general name for the nonattainment areas on the row, but may not reflect the exact name of any area on the row. This column cannot be exact since the nonattainment area for one pollutant may not contain the same counties, cities, or states as the nonattainment area for another pollutant on the same row. The abbreviations listed in the "State(s)" column reflect all states identified in row. However, some states on a row may be nonattainment for some pollutants and not for others in the general area. A multi-state area with states that have not all been redesignated to maintenance is counted as a nonattainment area until all of the states in the area are redesignated, with the whole area population displayed.

Discover.

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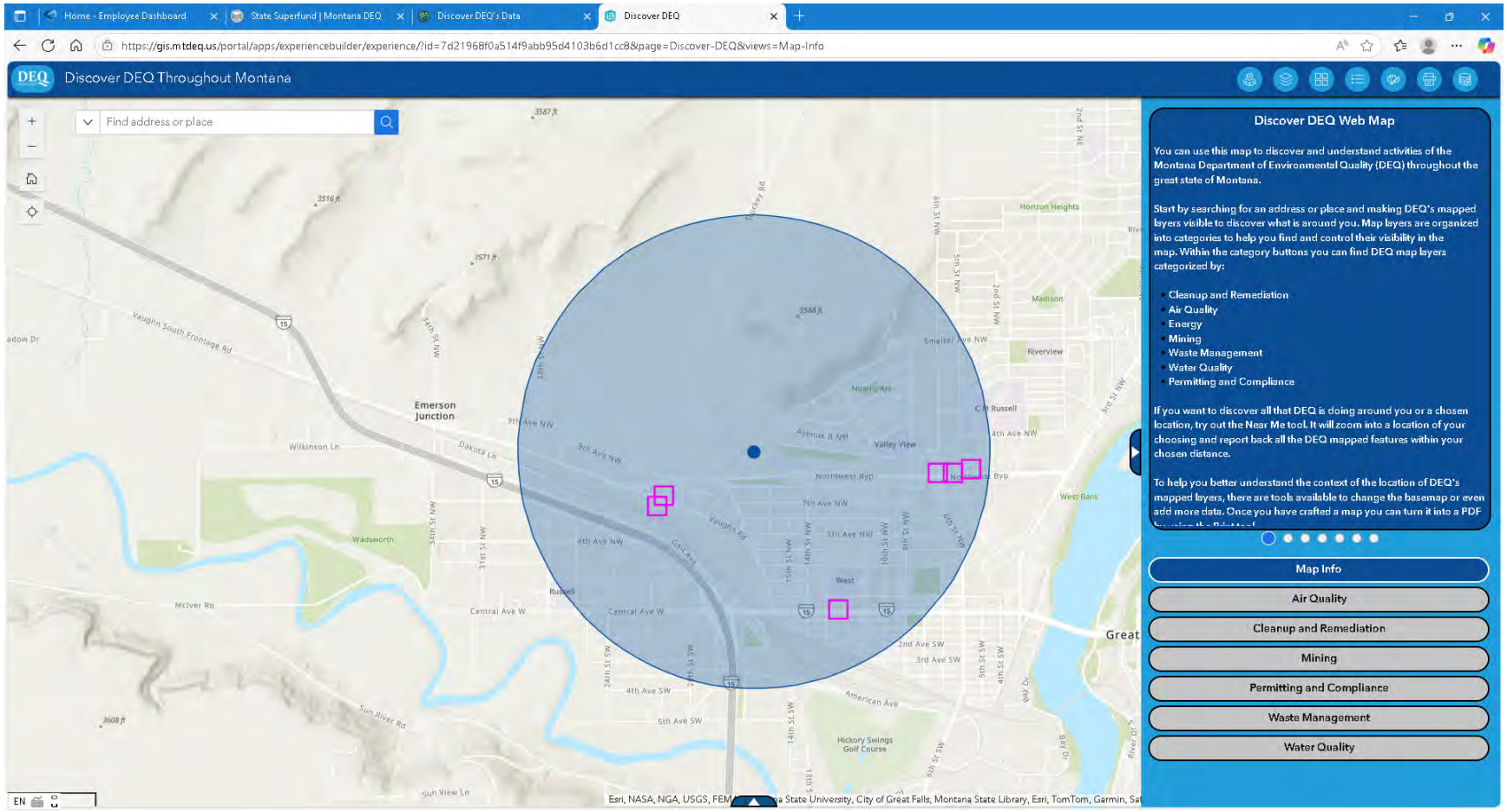
2025-07-31

DOCUMENT 5
CONTAMINATED SITES


Home - Employee Dashboard
State Superfund | Montana DEQ
Discover DEQ's Data
Discover DEQ
https://gis.mtdeq.us/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=7d21968f0a514f9abb95d4103b6d1cc8&page=Discover-DEQ&views=Map-Info
DEQ
Discover DEQ Throughout Montana
Find address or place
Discover DEQ Web Map
You can use this map to discover and understand activities of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) throughout the great state of Montana.
Start by searching for an address or place and making DEQ's mapped layers visible to discover what is around you. Map layers are organized into categories to help you find and control their visibility in the map. Within the category buttons you can find DEQ map layers categorized by:
Cleanup and Remediation
Air Quality
Energy
Mining
Waste Management
Water Quality
Permitting and Compliance
If you want to discover all that DEQ is doing around you or a chosen location, try out the Near Me tool. It will zoom into a location of your choosing and report back all the DEQ mapped features within your chosen distance.
To help you better understand the context of the location of DEQ's mapped layers, there are tools available to change the basemap or even add more data. Once you have crafted a map you can turn it into a PDF
Map Info
Air Quality
Cleanup and Remediation
Mining
Permitting and Compliance
Waste Management
Water Quality
Emerson Junction
Wadsworth
West
Great
Madison
Riverview
Horizon Heights
Valley View
Hickory Swings Golf Course
Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEM
City of Great Falls, Montana State Library, Esri, TomTom, Garmin,

An official website of the United States government

MENU

Search EPA.gov

ECHO Enforcement and Compliance History Online

<https://echo.epa.gov/>

Facility Search Results

Georgia, Michigan, Nebraska, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin are working with EPA to fix problems with their Clean Water Act violation data. Read More...

Drinking water data displayed on ECHO are not real-time data. Read More...

Report Violation <https://epa.gov/report-environmental-violations>

Help <https://epa.gov/help/facility-search/facility-search-results-help>

Facility Summary

Select a facility row from the search results table.

Current Search

10 Facilities Found

Selected Criteria

Media Selected: All Media Programs
City, State, and/or ZIP Code: 59404 ✕
Active/Operating: Yes ✕

Explore Enforcement and Compliance Criteria

- ☐ **1** Facilities with Current Violations
- ☐ **1** Facilities with Significant Violations
- ☐ **1** Facilities with Violations (3 years)
- ☐ **0** Facilities with Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)
- ☐ **1** Facilities with Informal Enforcement Actions (5 years)

Customize Columns | Download Data | Quick CSV Download

View Search Form for More Criteria...

Source Data <https://epa.gov/resources/echo-data/about-the-data>

Results Guide <https://epa.gov/help/facility-search/all-data-search-results-help#results>

Reports Legend <https://epa.gov/help/facility-search/search-results-reports-legend>

Facility Name	Mapped	Street Address	City	State	FRS ID	Reports
AUTO MAINTENANCE SHOP		1700 VAUGHN RD	GREAT FALLS	MT	110038885347	
GOLDEN TRIANGLE RENTALS		2809 VAUGHN RD	GREAT FALLS	MT	110004008804	
JB AUTO PARTS & RECYCLING		2535 9TH AVENUE NW	GREAT FALLS	MT	110015755084	
LITTLE SHELL CEREMONIAL CENTER		1301 STUCKEY ROAD	GREAT FALLS	MT	110071905119	

Filter Facilities

Not Filtering on 10 Facilities

- [x] Only Show Matches

Facility Characteristics

Facility Type

- [ ] **0** Major
- [ ] **10** Non-Major

Facility Permit/ID

- [ ] **2** Has Water Permit (ICIS-NPDES)
- [ ] **1** Has ICIS-Air ID
- [ ] **7** Has RCRA ID
- [ ] **0** Has TRI Releases

Enforcement and Compliance Characteristics

- [ ] **1 Facilities with Violations (1 or more quarters within the past 3 years)**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Facility Name	Mapped	Street Address	City	State	FRS ID	Reports
MOLTZANS AUTO INC		2209 VAUGHN RD	GREAT FALLS	MT	110004009224	
NORTHWEST TRUCK INC		2513 VAUGHN RD	GREAT FALLS	MT	110004008760	

Facilities with Formal Enforcement Actions (5 yrs)

☐ **0 Yes** ☐ **10 No**

1 2 3 4 5

Facilities with Informal Enforcement Actions (5 yrs)

☐ **1 Yes** ☐ **9 No**

1 2 3 4 5

Facilities with Compliance Monitoring Activities within Date Range

☐ **0 Yes** ☐ **10 No**

mm / dd

mm / dd

Layers

Each map layer requires a specific map scale for display. Layers are only available for selection if the map is zoomed in to a sufficient scale. Zoom in further to enable selection of additional layers. Note that adding multiple overlapping map layers may cause performance issues in the

browser and display.

Do not show again

Current Zoom: 72%

▶ **Air Maps**

▶ **Water Maps**

▶ **Places**

▶ **Boundaries**

▶ **Endangered Species Act Critical Habitat**

▶ **Extreme Weather**

Top of Page

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Budget & Performance <https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget>

Contracting <https://www.epa.gov/contracts>

Connect.

Data.gov <https://www.data.gov/>

Inspector General <https://www.epa.gov/office-inspector-general/about-epas-office-inspector-general>

Ask.

Contact EPA <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/forms/contact-epa>

EPA Disclaimers <https://www.epa.gov/web-policies-and-procedures/epa-disclaimers>

EPA www Web Snapshots <https://www.epa.gov/home/wwwepagov-snapshots>

Grants <https://www.epa.gov/grants>

No FEAR Act Data <https://www.epa.gov/ocr/whistleblower-protections-epa-and-how-they-relate-non-disclosure-agreements-signed-epa-employees>

Privacy <https://www.epa.gov/privacy>

Privacy and Security Notice <https://www.epa.gov/privacy/privacy-and-security-notice>

Jobs <https://www.epa.gov/careers>

Newsroom <https://www.epa.gov/newsroom>

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USA.gov <https://www.usa.gov/>

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Hotlines <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-hotlines>

FOIA Requests <https://www.epa.gov/foia>

Frequent Questions <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/frequent-questions-specific-epa-programstopics>

Follow.

Last updated on May 13, 2024

Data Refresh Information <https://epa.gov/resources/echo-data/about-the-data#sources>

DOCUMENT 6

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

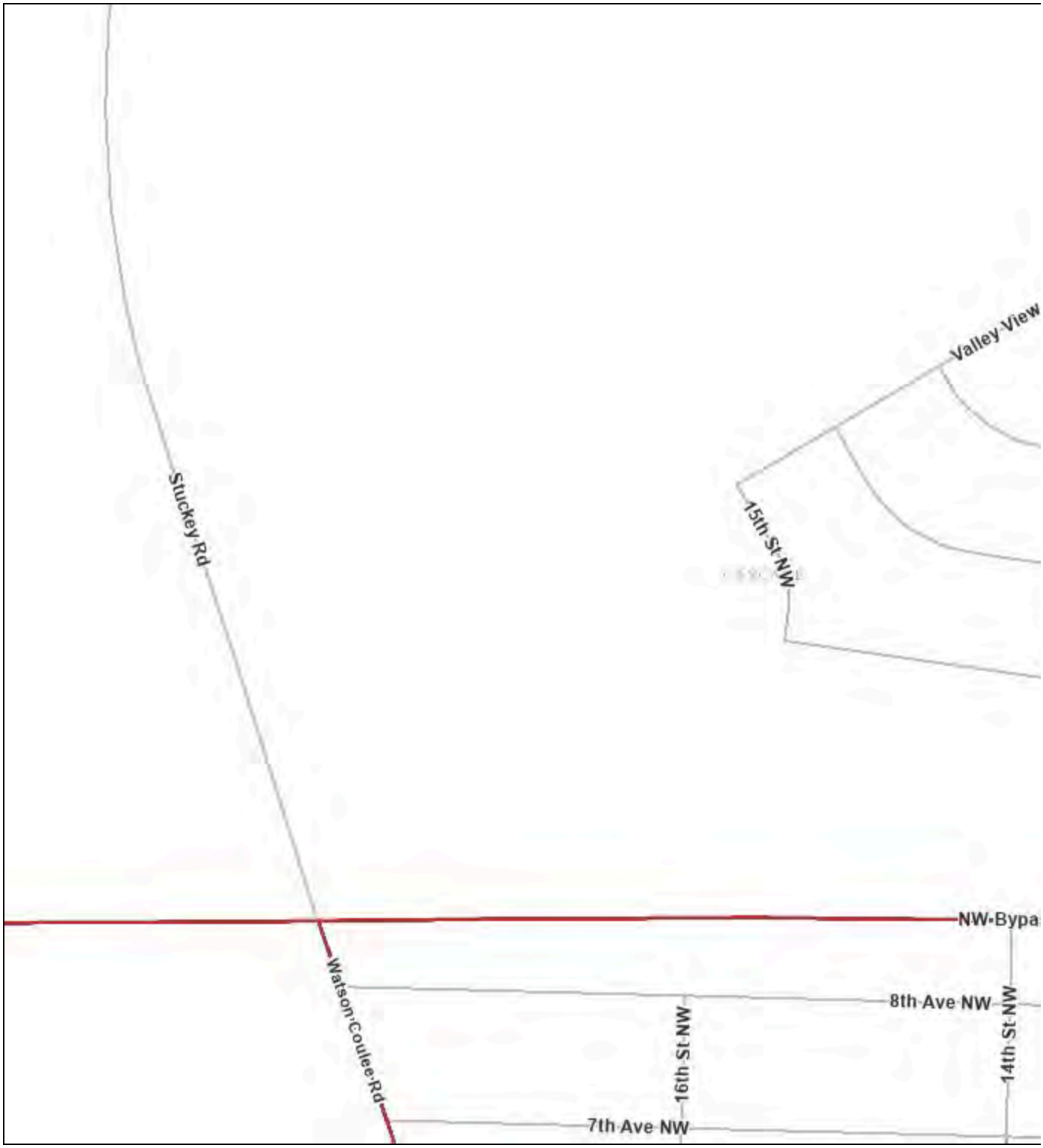
A program of the **Montana State Library's Natural Resource Information System.**

Latitude	Longitude
47.51381	-111.32552
47.52333	-111.35182

Montana Generalized Observations Report

Report generated 8/13/2025 12:14:06 PM

Generalized Observations for Mammals = ALL Mammals and Birds = ALL Birds and Reptiles = ALL Reptiles and Amphibians = ALL Amphibians and Bryophytes = ALL Bryophytes and Lichens = ALL Lichens



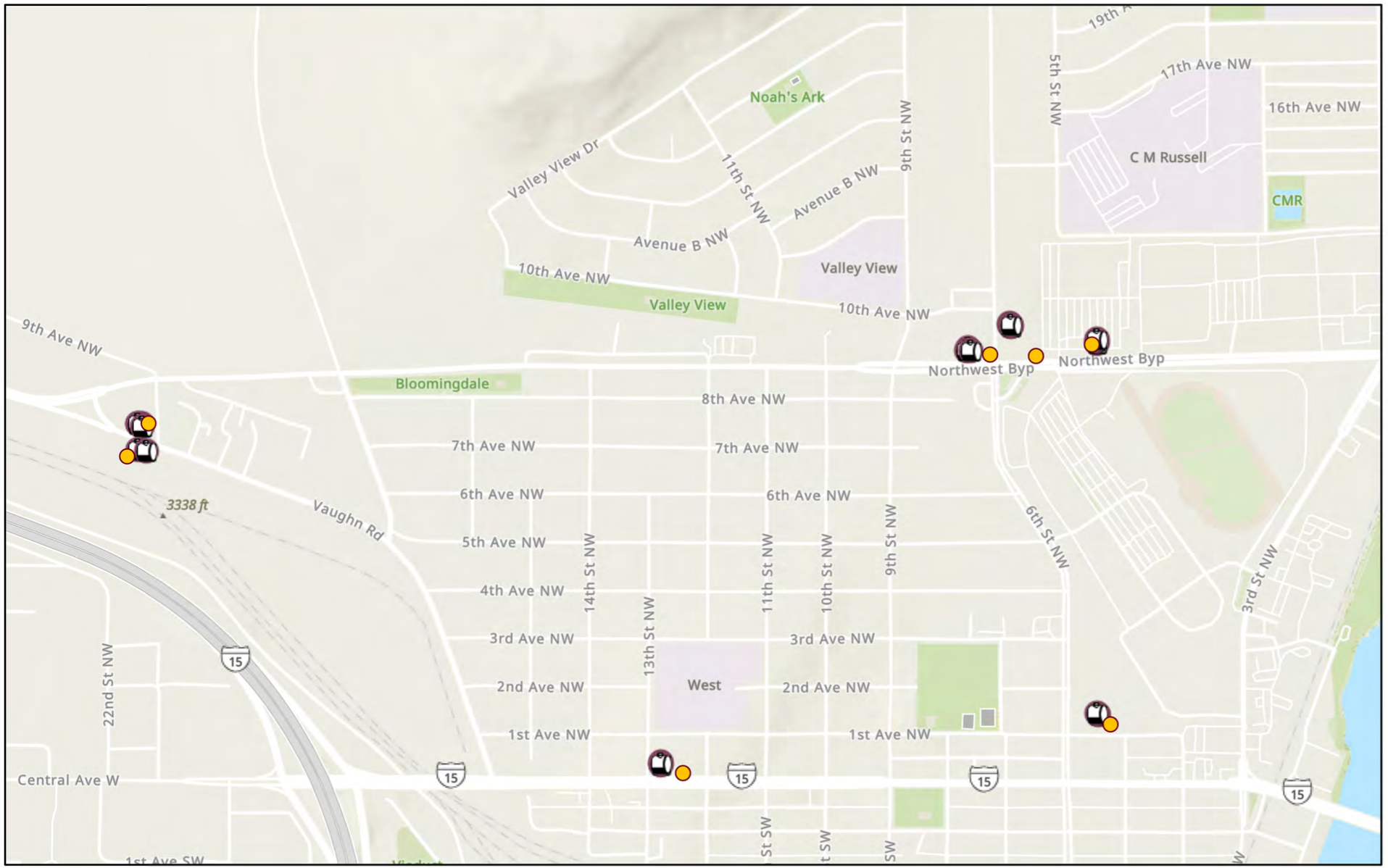
⊞ **Birds - American Robin** *(Turdus migratorius)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2022	**Recent Obs**: 2022
⊞ **Birds - Black-billed Magpie** *(Pica hudsonia)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2019	**Recent Obs**: 2019
⊞ **Birds - Black-capped Chickadee** *(Poecile atricapillus)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2020	**Recent Obs**: 2020
⊞ **Birds - Blue Jay** *(Cyanocitta cristata)*	**Obs Count**: 2	**Earliest Obs**: 2020	**Recent Obs**: 2024
⊞ **Birds - Brewer's Blackbird** *(Euphagus cyanocephalus)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2019	**Recent Obs**: 2019
⊞ **Birds - Common Nighthawk** *(Chordeiles minor)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2020	**Recent Obs**: 2020
⊞ **Birds - Dark-eyed Junco** *(Junco hyemalis)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2020	**Recent Obs**: 2020

Birds - Double-crested Cormorant *(Nannopterum auritum)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2019	**Recent Obs**: 2019
Birds - Eurasian Collared-Dove *(Streptopelia decaocto)*	**Obs Count**: 2	**Earliest Obs**: 2020	**Recent Obs**: 2022
Birds - European Starling *(Sturnus vulgaris)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2020	**Recent Obs**: 2020
Birds - Golden Eagle *(Aquila chrysaetos)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2020	**Recent Obs**: 2020
Birds - House Finch *(Haemorhous mexicanus)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2020	**Recent Obs**: 2020
Birds - House Sparrow *(Passer domesticus)*	**Obs Count**: 3	**Earliest Obs**: 2019	**Recent Obs**: 2022
Birds - Mourning Dove *(Zenaida macroura)*	**Obs Count**: 2	**Earliest Obs**: 2019	**Recent Obs**: 2022
Birds - Red-tailed Hawk *(Buteo jamaicensis)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2024	**Recent Obs**: 2024
Birds - Ring-billed Gull *(Larus delawarensis)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2019	**Recent Obs**: 2019
Birds - Ring-necked Pheasant *(Phasianus colchicus)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2020	**Recent Obs**: 2020
Birds - Rock Pigeon *(Columba livia)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2019	**Recent Obs**: 2019
Birds - Swainson's Hawk *(Buteo swainsoni)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 2023	**Recent Obs**: 2023
Birds - Western Screech-Owl *(Megascops kennicottii)*	**Obs Count**: 1	**Earliest Obs**: 1999	**Recent Obs**: 1999

Citation for this report:
Montana Generalized Observations Report
Generalized Observations for Mammals = ALL Mammals and Birds = ALL Birds and Reptiles = ALL Reptiles and Amphibians = ALL Amphibians and Bryophytes = ALL Bryophytes and Lichens = ALL Lichens
Within Lat/Long: (47.51381,-111.32552) to (47.52333,-111.35182)
Natural Heritage Map Viewer. Montana Natural Heritage Program.
Retrieved on August 13, 2025, from https://mtnhp.org/MapViewer/GenOBSReport.aspx

DOCUMENT 7
FLAMMABLE HAZARDS

Flammable Hazards



7/28/2025

- UST Facilities
- UST Tanks

World_Hillshade

1:17,774

0 0.1 0.2 0.4 mi

0 0.15 0.3 0.6 km

Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

REV	DATE	REVISION

TD&H Engineering
tdhengineering.com

DRAWN BY:
DESIGNED BY:
QUALITY CHECK:
DATE:
JOB NO.
FIELDBOOK

24-126 Little Shell Tribe Development
Great Falls, MT

Flammable Hazard s

FIGURES2.DWG

SHEET

PAGE SETUP 2023_TDH_22X34_AS_11X17_L
PRINTED 2025-07-29, BY RYAN VOSEN, I:\2024\GTF\24-126 LITTLE SHELL TRIBE DEV MASTER\06_CADD\LANDSCAPE\FIGURES\FIGURES2.DWG

Facility Summary in Cascade County in the City of Great Falls

Location: TOLAN DISTRIBUTING INC
2201 Vaughn Rd, Great Falls, MT,59404-2197, Cascade

System Facility ID:07-04511

Facility Code: 18527
Last Inspected On: 08/11/2023
Operating Permit Renewal Date: 09/15/2026

Note: **Inspection is due 90 days before the Operating Permit Renewal Date.**

Owner Operator Contact: Tolan Distributing Inc **tdimt@gmx.com**

Operator Contact:

Tank Number	06	**Tank Age**	26	**Tank Installed Date**	09/01/1999	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	High Level Alarm
Tag Number	4098	**Spill Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**		**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Sump Tightness Test Date**	09/26/2020	**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Mechanical Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Gasoline	**PLLD Test Date**		**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**		**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	MLLD Line Tightness Testing	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	8000	**ATG Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Line Tightness Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**		**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date	06/07/2023			**ATG Type**	EMCO Electronics/EECO 1500				
Tank Number	07	**Tank Age**	26	**Tank Installed Date**	01/01/1999	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	High Level Alarm
Tag Number	4099	**Spill Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**		**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Sump Tightness Test Date**	09/26/2018	**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Mechanical Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Gasoline	**PLLD Test Date**		**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**		**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	MLLD Line Tightness Testing	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	4000	**ATG Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Line Tightness Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**		**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No

		Overfill Test Date	06/07/2023			**ATG Type**	EMCO Electronics/EECO 1500				
Tank Number	08	**Tank Age**	26	**Tank Installed Date**	09/01/1999	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	High Level Alarm
Tag Number	4100	**Spill Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**		**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Sump Tightness Test Date**	09/26/2018	**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Mechanical Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Diesel	**PLLD Test Date**		**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**		**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	MLLD Line Tightness Testing	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	8000	**ATG Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Line Tightness Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**		**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date	06/07/2023			**ATG Type**	EMCO Electronics/EECO 1500				
Tank Number	09	**Tank Age**	26	**Tank Installed Date**	09/01/1999	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	High Level Alarm
Tag Number	4101	**Spill Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**		**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Sump Tightness Test Date**	09/26/2018	**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Mechanical Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Diesel	**PLLD Test Date**		**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**		**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	MLLD Line Tightness Testing	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	4000	**ATG Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Line Tightness Test Date**	06/07/2023	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**		**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date	06/07/2023			**ATG Type**	EMCO Electronics/EECO 1500				

Facility Summary in Cascade County in the City of Great Falls

Location: BRAKE TIME 253722
1225 Central Ave W, Great Falls, MT,59404-3968, Cascade

System Facility ID:07-05777

Facility Code: 18586
Last Inspected On: 01/07/2025
Operating Permit Renewal Date: 03/08/2028

Note: **Inspection is due 90 days before the Operating Permit Renewal Date.**

Owner Operator Contact:	Central Ave Great falls LLC	**(832) 539-8190**	**licensing@btcmstores.com**
Operator Contact:	Chelsey Partridge;Holly Seymour;John Sumowski;Randal Liebnow;Theodore Bezel;Mini Mart Inc dba Loaf 'N Jug Pueblo	**(267) 799-8664;(406) 750-8563;(513) 964-1568**	**eglegaldept@eg-america.com;hseymour86@hotmail.com;randy.liebnow@loafnjug.com**

Tank Number	01	**Tank Age**	53	**Tank Installed Date**	04/26/1972	**Tank Material Construction**	Cathodically Protected Steel	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Flapper Valve
Tag Number	1630	**Spill Test Date**	08/28/2024	**Piping Installed Date**	10/19/2016	**Tank Construction**	Lined Interior/Impressed Current	**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**		**Sump Tightness Test Date**	08/28/2024	**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Electronic Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Impressed Current
Product	Diesel	**PLLD Test Date**	08/28/2024	**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**	04/21/2022	**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	8000	**ATG Test Date**	08/28/2024	**Line Tightness Test Date**	01/07/2011	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**		**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	ELLD 0.2	**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date	11/21/2024			**ATG Type**	Gilbarco-Veeder Root/TLS-350/Gilbarco EMC				
Tank Number	02	**Tank Age**	53	**Tank Installed Date**	04/26/1972	**Tank Material Construction**	Cathodically Protected Steel	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Flapper Valve
Tag Number	1631	**Spill Test Date**	08/28/2024	**Piping Installed Date**	10/19/2016	**Tank Construction**	Lined Interior/Impressed Current	**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**		**Sump Tightness Test Date**	08/28/2024	**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Electronic Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Impressed Current
Product	Gasoline	**PLLD Test Date**	08/28/2024	**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**	04/21/2022	**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	8000	**ATG Test Date**	08/28/2024	**Line Tightness Test Date**	01/07/2011	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**		**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	ELLD 0.2	**Energy Act**	No

		Overfill Test Date	11/21/2024			**ATG Type**	Gilbarco-Veeder Root/TLS-350/Gilbarco EMC				
Tank Number	03	**Tank Age**	53	**Tank Installed Date**	04/26/1972	**Tank Material Construction**	Cathodically Protected Steel	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Flapper Valve
Tag Number	1632	**Spill Test Date**	08/28/2024	**Piping Installed Date**	10/19/2016	**Tank Construction**	Lined Interior/Impressed Current	**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**		**Sump Tightness Test Date**	08/28/2024	**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Electronic Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Impressed Current
Product	Gasoline	**PLLD Test Date**	08/28/2024	**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**	04/21/2022	**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	8000	**ATG Test Date**	08/28/2024	**Line Tightness Test Date**	01/07/2011	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**		**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	ELLD 0.2	**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date	11/21/2024			**ATG Type**	Gilbarco-Veeder Root/TLS-350/Gilbarco EMC				

Facility Summary in Cascade County in the City of Great Falls

Location: SUCH GROUP INTERNATIONAL INC
2224 Vaughn Rd, Great Falls, MT,59404-2196, Cascade

System Facility ID:07-13632

Facility Code: 19051
Last Inspected On: 02/06/2024
Operating Permit Renewal Date: 02/13/2027

Note: **Inspection is due 90 days before the Operating Permit Renewal Date.**

Owner Operator Contact: Such Group International Inc **todds@wwpgf.com**

Operator Contact: Todd Such **(406) 727-4114** **todds@sgigf.com**

Tank Number	01	**Tank Age**	30	**Tank Installed Date**	08/01/1995	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	High Level Alarm
Tag Number	4389	**Spill Test Date**		**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**		**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Temporarily Out of Use**	**MLLD Test Date**		**Sump Tightness Test Date**		**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Gasoline	**PLLD Test Date**		**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**		**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.1;Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	10000	**ATG Test Date**		**Line Tightness Test Date**		**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**		**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**		**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date				**ATG Type**					
Tank Number	02	**Tank Age**	30	**Tank Installed Date**	08/01/1995	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	High Level Alarm
Tag Number	4390	**Spill Test Date**		**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**		**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Temporarily Out of Use**	**MLLD Test Date**		**Sump Tightness Test Date**		**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Diesel	**PLLD Test Date**		**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**		**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.1;Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	12000	**ATG Test Date**		**Line Tightness Test Date**		**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**		**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**		**Energy Act**	No

		Overfill Test Date				**ATG Type**					

Facility Summary in Cascade County in the City of Great Falls

Location: CIRCLE K STORE 2746059
601 Northwest Bypass, Great Falls, MT,59404-2480, Cascade

System Facility ID:07-13729

Facility Code: 19059
Last Inspected On: 06/26/2023
Operating Permit Renewal Date: 12/04/2026

Note: **Inspection is due 90 days before the Operating Permit Renewal Date.**

Owner Operator Contact:	Rocky Mountain Oil LLC	**(602) 728-8000**	**NT-ESS@Circlek.com**
Operator Contact:	Veronica Rivera		**ESS-WestCoast@circlek.com**

Tank Number	01	**Tank Age**	29	**Tank Installed Date**	07/17/1996	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Flapper Valve;High Level Alarm
Tag Number	3359	**Spill Test Date**	06/26/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**		**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**		**Sump Tightness Test Date**	07/14/2022	**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Electronic Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Gasoline	**PLLD Test Date**	06/26/2023	**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**	11/06/2012	**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	ELLD 0.2	**Vapor Recovery**	Yes
Capacity	12000	**ATG Test Date**	06/26/2023	**Line Tightness Test Date**	05/25/2017	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**		**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date	06/26/2023			**ATG Type**	Gilbarco-Veeder Root/TLS-350/Gilbarco EMC				
Tank Number	02	**Tank Age**	29	**Tank Installed Date**	07/17/1996	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Flapper Valve;High Level Alarm
Tag Number	3360	**Spill Test Date**	06/26/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**		**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**		**Sump Tightness Test Date**	07/14/2022	**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Electronic Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Gasoline	**PLLD Test Date**	06/26/2023	**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**	11/06/2012	**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	ELLD 0.2	**Vapor Recovery**	Yes
Capacity	8000	**ATG Test Date**	06/26/2023	**Line Tightness Test Date**	05/21/2017	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**		**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No

		Overfill Test Date	06/26/2023			**ATG Type**	Gilbarco-Veeder Root/TLS-350/Gilbarco EMC				
Tank Number	03	**Tank Age**	29	**Tank Installed Date**	07/17/1996	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Flapper Valve;High Level Alarm
Tag Number	3361	**Spill Test Date**	06/26/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**		**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**		**Sump Tightness Test Date**	07/14/2022	**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Electronic Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Diesel	**PLLD Test Date**	06/26/2023	**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**	11/06/2012	**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	ELLD 0.2	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	8000	**ATG Test Date**	06/26/2023	**Line Tightness Test Date**	05/17/2017	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**		**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date	06/26/2023			**ATG Type**	Gilbarco-Veeder Root/TLS-350/Gilbarco EMC				

Facility Summary in Cascade County in the City of Great Falls

Location: TOWN PUMP INC GREAT FALLS 3
505 Northwest Byp, Great Falls, MT,59404-4102, Cascade

System Facility ID:56-14016

Facility Code: 30676
Last Inspected On: 03/25/2024
Operating Permit Renewal Date: 08/06/2027

Note: **Inspection is due 90 days before the Operating Permit Renewal Date.**

Owner Operator Contact:	Great Falls 3 Town Pump LLC	**(406) 497-6700**	**environmental@townpump.com**
Operator Contact:	Trent Biggers		**Trentb@townpump.com**

Tank Number	01	**Tank Age**	24	**Tank Installed Date**	10/01/2001	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Ball Float Valve
Tag Number	4453	**Spill Test Date**	09/13/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**	Double-Walled	**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**		**Sump Tightness Test Date**		**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Electronic Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Diesel	**PLLD Test Date**	03/25/2024	**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**	11/30/2005	**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Statistical Inventory Reconciliation	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	Statistical Inventory Reconciliation	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	15000	**ATG Test Date**	03/25/2024	**Line Tightness Test Date**	10/12/2006	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date	09/13/2023			**ATG Type**	Gilbarco-Veeder Root/TLS-350				
Tank Number	02	**Tank Age**	24	**Tank Installed Date**	10/01/2001	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Ball Float Valve
Tag Number	4454	**Spill Test Date**	09/13/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**	Double-Walled	**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**		**Sump Tightness Test Date**		**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Electronic Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Diesel	**PLLD Test Date**	03/25/2024	**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**	11/30/2005	**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Statistical Inventory Reconciliation	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	Statistical Inventory Reconciliation	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	10000	**ATG Test Date**	03/25/2024	**Line Tightness Test Date**	10/12/2006	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No

		Overfill Test Date	09/13/2023			**ATG Type**	Gilbarco-Veeder Root/TLS-350				
Tank Number	03	**Tank Age**	24	**Tank Installed Date**	10/01/2001	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Ball Float Valve
Tag Number	4455	**Spill Test Date**	09/13/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**	Double-Walled	**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**		**Sump Tightness Test Date**		**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Electronic Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Diesel	**PLLD Test Date**	03/25/2024	**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**	11/30/2005	**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Statistical Inventory Reconciliation	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	Statistical Inventory Reconciliation	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	5000	**ATG Test Date**	03/25/2024	**Line Tightness Test Date**	10/12/2006	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date	09/13/2023			**ATG Type**	Gilbarco-Veeder Root/TLS-350				
Tank Number	04	**Tank Age**	24	**Tank Installed Date**	10/01/2001	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Ball Float Valve
Tag Number	4456	**Spill Test Date**	09/13/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**	Double-Walled	**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**		**Sump Tightness Test Date**		**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Electronic Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Gasoline	**PLLD Test Date**	03/25/2024	**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**	11/30/2005	**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Statistical Inventory Reconciliation	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	Statistical Inventory Reconciliation	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	10000	**ATG Test Date**	03/25/2024	**Line Tightness Test Date**	10/12/2006	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date	09/13/2023			**ATG Type**	Gilbarco-Veeder Root/TLS-350				
Tank Number	05	**Tank Age**	24	**Tank Installed Date**	10/01/2001	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Ball Float Valve
Tag Number	4457	**Spill Test Date**	09/13/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**	Double-Walled	**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**		**Sump Tightness Test Date**		**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Electronic Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Gasoline	**PLLD Test Date**	03/25/2024	**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**	11/30/2005	**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Statistical Inventory Reconciliation	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	Statistical Inventory Reconciliation	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	5000	**ATG Test Date**	03/25/2024	**Line Tightness Test Date**	10/12/2006	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No

		Overfill Test Date	09/13/2023			**ATG Type**	Gilbarco-Veeder Root/TLS-350				

Facility Summary in Cascade County in the City of Great Falls

Location: SAMS CLUB 6379
401 Northwest Byp, Great Falls, MT,59404-4124, Cascade

System Facility ID:56-14065

Facility Code: 30718
Last Inspected On: 03/20/2023
Operating Permit Renewal Date: 04/16/2026

Note: **Inspection is due 90 days before the Operating Permit Renewal Date.**

Owner Operator Contact:	Sams West Inc	**(785) 550-8812**	**marie.brouhard@aptim.com**
Operator Contact:	Cheryl Shie;Dylan Oakden;Shaiyna Chinery	**(406) 217-2265;(760) 669-2468**	**clshie.s06379.us@samsclub.com;fatalangelshai@gmail.com;rdoakde.s06379.us@samsclub.com**

Tank Number	01	**Tank Age**	23	**Tank Installed Date**	08/05/2002	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Flapper Valve
Tag Number	4702	**Spill Test Date**	02/15/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**	Double-Walled	**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**	02/15/2023	**Sump Tightness Test Date**	04/26/2023	**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Mechanical Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Gasoline	**PLLD Test Date**		**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**		**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	MLLD Line Tightness Testing	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	20000	**ATG Test Date**	02/15/2023	**Line Tightness Test Date**	02/15/2023	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date	04/26/2023			**ATG Type**	Veeder Root/TLS-450				
Tank Number	02	**Tank Age**	23	**Tank Installed Date**	08/05/2002	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Flapper Valve
Tag Number	4703	**Spill Test Date**	02/15/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**	Double-Walled	**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**	02/15/2023	**Sump Tightness Test Date**	04/26/2023	**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Mechanical Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Gasoline	**PLLD Test Date**		**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**		**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	MLLD Line Tightness Testing	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	20000	**ATG Test Date**	02/15/2023	**Line Tightness Test Date**	02/15/2023	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date	04/26/2023			**ATG Type**	Veeder Root/TLS-450				

Tank Number	03	**Tank Age**	23	**Tank Installed Date**	08/05/2002	**Tank Material Construction**	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	**Piping Material**	Flexible Plastic	**Overfill Types**	Flapper Valve
Tag Number	4704	**Spill Test Date**	02/15/2023	**Piping Installed Date**		**Tank Construction**	Double-Walled	**Piping Construction**	Double Walled	**AST**	No
Status	**Currently in Use**	**MLLD Test Date**	02/15/2023	**Sump Tightness Test Date**	04/26/2023	**Catastrophic L.D. Type 3.0**	Mechanical Line Leak Detector	**Piping Type**	Pressurized	**CP Met Types**	Non-corrodible
Product	Gasoline	**PLLD Test Date**		**Tank/Piping CP Test Date**		**Primary Tank Leak Detection**	Automatic Tank Gauging 0.2	**Primary Pipe Leak Detection**	MLLD Line Tightness Testing	**Vapor Recovery**	No
Capacity	20000	**ATG Test Date**	02/15/2023	**Line Tightness Test Date**	02/15/2023	**Secondary Tank Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Secondary Pipe Leak Detection**	Continuous Interstitial Monitoring	**Energy Act**	No
		Overfill Test Date	04/26/2023			**ATG Type**	Veeder Root/TLS-450				

DOCUMENT 8
SOILS REPORT

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Ecological site R052XN162MT
Clayey (Cy) 10-14" p.z.

Last updated: 4/01/2025
Accessed: 08/14/2025

General information

Provisional. A provisional ecological site description has undergone quality control and quality assurance review. It contains a working state and transition model and enough information to identify the ecological site.

MLRA notes

Major Land Resource Area (MLRA): 052X–Brown Glaciated Plains

The Brown Glaciated Plains, MLRA 52, is an expansive, agriculturally and ecologically significant area. It consists of approximately 14.5 million acres and stretches across 350 miles from east to west, encompassing portions of 15 counties in north-central Montana. This region represents the southwestern limit of the Laurentide Ice Sheet and is considered to be the driest and westernmost area within the vast network of glacially derived prairie pothole landforms of the northern Great Plains. Elevation ranges from 2,000 feet (610 meters) to 4,600 feet (1,400 meters).

Soils are primarily Mollisols, but Entisols, Inceptisols, Alfisols, and Vertisols are also common. Till from continental glaciation is the predominant parent material, but alluvium and bedrock are also common. Till deposits are typically less than 50 feet thick, and in some areas glacially deformed bedrock occurs at or near the soil surface (Soller, 2001). Underlying sedimentary bedrock largely consisting of Cretaceous shale, sandstone, and mudstone (Vuke et al., 2007) is commonly exposed on hillslopes, particularly along drainageways. Significant alluvial deposits occur along glacial outwash channels and major drainages, including portions of the Missouri, Teton, Marias, Milk, and Frenchman Rivers. Large glacial lakes, particularly in the western half of the MLRA, deposited clayey and silty lacustrine sediments (Fullerton et al., 2013).

Much of the western portion of this MLRA was glaciated towards the end of the Wisconsin age, with the maximum glacial extent occurring approximately 20,000 years ago (Fullerton et al., 2004). The result is a geologically young landscape that is predominantly a level till plain interspersed with lake plains and dominated by soils in the Mollisol and Vertisol orders. These soils are very productive and generally are well suited to dryland farming. Much of this area is aridic-ustic. Crop-fallow dryland wheat farming is the predominant land use. Areas of rangeland typically are on steep hillslopes along drainages.

The rangeland, much of which is native mixedgrass prairie, increases in abundance in the eastern half of the MLRA. The Wisconsin-age till in the north-central part of this area typically formed large disintegration moraines with steep slopes and numerous poorly drained potholes. A large portion of Wisconsin-age till occurring on the type of the level terrain that would typically be optimal for farming has large amounts of less-suitable sodium-affected Natrustalfs. Significant portions of Blaine, Phillips, and Valley Counties were glaciated approximately 150,000 years ago during the Illinoisan age. Due to erosion and dissection of the landscape, many of these areas have steeper slopes and more exposed bedrock than areas glaciated during the Wisconsin age (Fullerton and Colton, 1986).

While much of the rangeland in the aridic-ustic portion of MLRA 52 is classified as belonging to the “dry grassland” climatic zone, sites in portions of southern MLRA 52 may belong to the “dry shrubland” climatic zone. The dry shrubland zone represents the northernmost extent of the big sagebrush (Artemisia tridentata) steppe on the Great Plains. Because similar soils occur in both southern and northern portions of the MLRA, it is currently hypothesized that climate is the primary driving factor affecting big sagebrush distribution in this area. However, the precise factors are not yet fully understood.

Sizeable tracts of largely unbroken rangeland in the eastern half of the MLRA and adjacent southern Saskatchewan are home to the Northern Montana population of greater sage-grouse (Centrocercus urophasianus), and large portions of this area are considered to be a Priority Area for Conservation (PAC) by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2013). This population is unique among sage grouse populations in the fact that many individuals overwinter in the big sagebrush steppe (dry shrubland) in the southern portion of the MLRA and then migrate to the northern portion of the MLRA, which lacks big sagebrush (dry grassland), to live rest of the year (Smith, 2013).

Areas of the till plain near the Bearpaw and Highwood Mountains as well as the Sweetgrass Hills and Rocky Mountain foothills are at higher elevations, receive higher amounts of precipitation, and have a typic-ustic moisture regime. These areas have significantly more rangeland production than the drier aridic-ustic portions of the MLRA and have enough moisture to produce crops annually rather than just bi-annually, as in the drier areas. Ecological sites in this higher precipitation area are classified as the moist grassland climatic zone.

Classification relationships

NRCS Soil Geography Hierarchy
• Land Resource Region: Northern Great Plains

• Major Land Resource Area (MLRA): 052 Brown Glaciated Plains
• Climate Zone: Dry Shrubland

National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units (Cleland et al., 1997; McNab et al., 2007)
• Domain: Dry
• Division: Temperate Steppe
• Province: Great Plains-Palouse Dry Steppe Province 331
• Section: Northwestern Glaciated Plains 331D
• Subsection: Montana Glaciated Plains 331Dh
• Landtype association/Landtype phase: N/A

National Vegetation Classification Standard (Federal Geographic Data Committee, 2008)
• Class: Xeromorphic Woodland, Scrub and Herb Vegetation Class (3)
• Subclass: Cool Semi-Desert Scrub and Grassland Subclass (3.B)
• Formation: Cool Semi-Desert Scrub and Grassland Formation (3.B.1)
• Division: Cool Semi-Desert Scrub and Grassland Division (3.B.1.Ne)
• Macrogroup: Artemisia tridentata - Artemisia tripartita ssp. tripartita - Purshia tridentata Steppe and Shrubland Macrogroup (3.B.1.Ne.3)
• Group: Artemisia tridentata - Artemisia tripartita - Purshia tridentata Big Sagebrush Steppe and Shrubland Group (3.B.1.Ne.3.b)
• Alliance: Artemisia tridentata ssp. wyomingensis Mesic Steppe and Shrubland Alliance
• Association: Artemisia tridentata ssp. wyomingensis / Pascopyrum smithii Shrub Grassland

EPA Ecoregions
• Level 1: Great Plains (9)
• Level 2: West-Central Semi-Arid Prairies (9.3)
• Level 3: Northwestern Glaciated Plains (42)
• Level 4: North-Central Brown Glaciated Plains (42o) and Glaciated Northern Grasslands (42j)

Ecological site concept

This ecological site occurs on till plains, lake plains, and low hills where slopes are less than 15 percent. This site can be found on any slope shape, but concave or linear is most common.

The distinguishing characteristic of this site is that it contains greater than 35 percent, but not more than 45 percent, clay in the upper 4 inches of soil. Soils for this ecological site are typically moderately deep to very deep (more than 20 inches to bedrock) and derived from shale residuum, clayey till, or glaciofluvial deposits. Soil surface textures (0 to 4 inches) are typically clay, clay loam, silty clay, or silty clay loam, and the soils typically have an ochric epipedon. This site is typically nonacid, with pH values greater than 5.6 throughout the soil profile. Characteristic vegetation is western wheatgrass (Pascopyrum smithii), green needlegrass (Nassella viridula), Nuttall's saltbush (Atriplex nuttallii), greasewood (Sarcobatus vermiculatus), and silver sagebrush (Artemisia cana).

Associated sites

R052XN161MT	**Silty (Si) 10-14" p.z.** Similar landscape position; different species composition and soil texture.
R052XN164MT	**Clayey-Steep (CyStp) 10-14" p.z.** Slopes >15%; less forage production; different species composition.
R052XN166MT	**Overflow (Ov) 10-14" p.z.** Receives additional run-in moisture from surrounding landscape; different species composition, higher productivity.
R052XN178MT	**Shallow (Sw) 10-14" p.z.** Soil depth less than or equal to 20 inches to a restrictive layer; less forage production.

Similar sites

R053AE061MT	**Clayey (Cy) (Legacy) RRU 53AE** Decrease in total annual production of bluebunch w heatgrass (it becomes an insignificant grass). Increase in other w heatgrasses and/or needlegrass.
R052XC205MT	**Clayey (Cy) 10-14" p.z.** Decrease in total annual production of bluebunch w heatgrass, but bluebunch is a co-dominant grass. Increase in other w heatgrasses and/or needlegrass.

Table 1. Dominant plant species

Tree	Not specified
Shrub	(1) *Krascheninnikovia lanata* (2) *Atriplex nuttallii*
Herbaceous	(1) *Nassella viridula* (2) *Pseudoroegneria spicata*

Physiographic features

This site usually consists of deep soils on flood plains and fans, and moderately deep soils on uplands. Slopes vary from 1- 15%, but are usually less than 8%. Elevations generally range from 2,000 to 3,500 feet.

Table 2. Representative physiographic features

Landforms	(1) Flood plain (2) Alluvial fan (3) Lava flow
Runoff class	Medium
Flooding frequency	None
Ponding frequency	None
Elevation	2,000–3,500 ft
Slope	1–8%
Aspect	W, NW, N, NE, E, SE, S, SW

Table 3. Representative physiographic features (actual ranges)

Runoff class	Not specified
Flooding frequency	Not specified

Ponding frequency	Not specified
Elevation	1,875–4,000 ft
Slope	1–15%

Climatic features

A semi-arid, temperate climate characterizes the Glaciated Plains. The predominance of cool season species has evolved to take advantage of the precipitation regime that peaks in late spring-early summer (June). Seventy-five percent of the annual precipitation usually falls as steady, soaking, frontal system rains. Summer rains usually come with thunderstorms. Precipitation is the most important factor influencing production (Heitschmidt et al 2005). Severe drought occurs on average in two out of every ten years (Cooper, et al., 2001).

Table 4. Representative climatic features

Frost-free period (characteristic range)	85-123 days
Freeze-free period (characteristic range)	116-142 days
Precipitation total (characteristic range)	10-14 in
Frost-free period (average)	94 days
Freeze-free period (average)	125 days
Precipitation total (average)	12 in

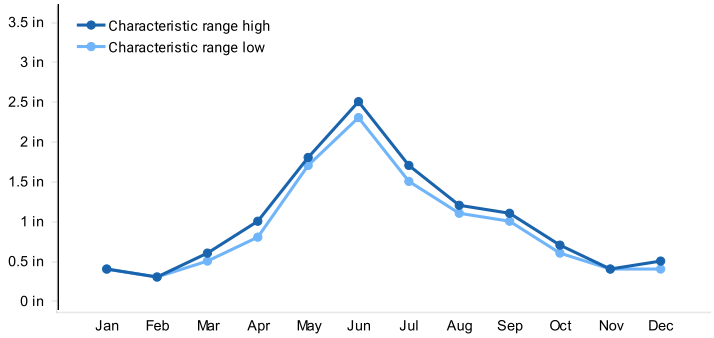


Figure 1. Monthly precipitation range

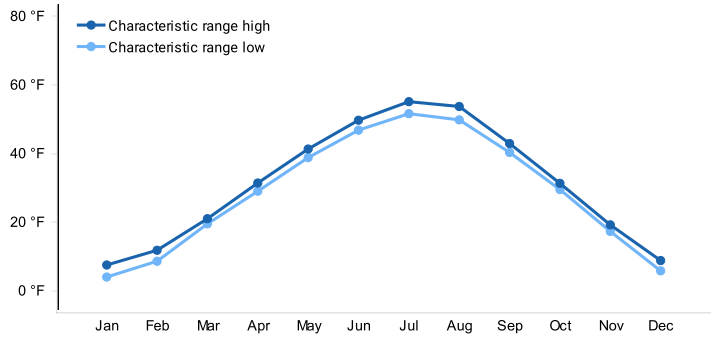


Figure 2. Monthly minimum temperature range

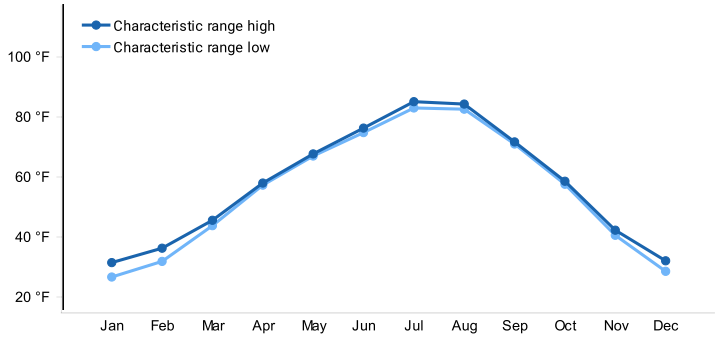


Figure 3. Monthly maximum temperature range

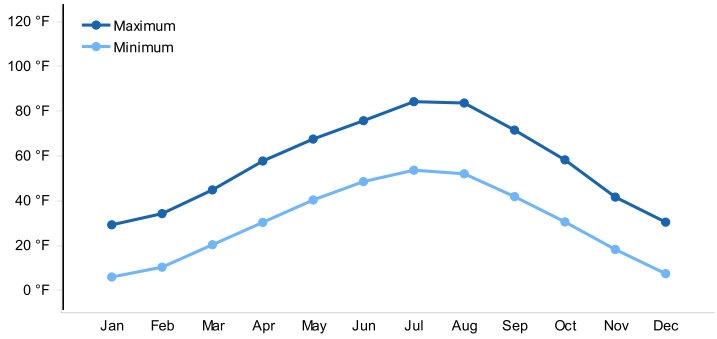


Figure 4. Monthly average minimum and maximum temperature

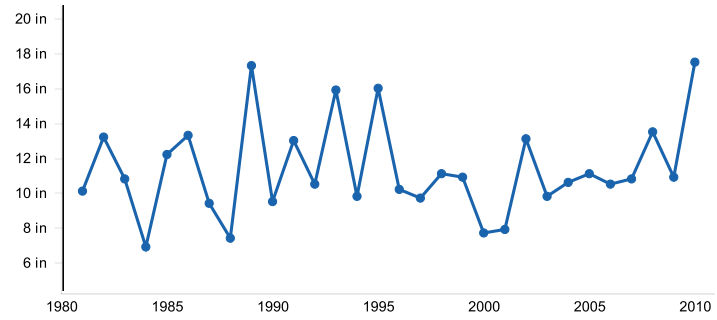


Figure 5. Annual precipitation pattern

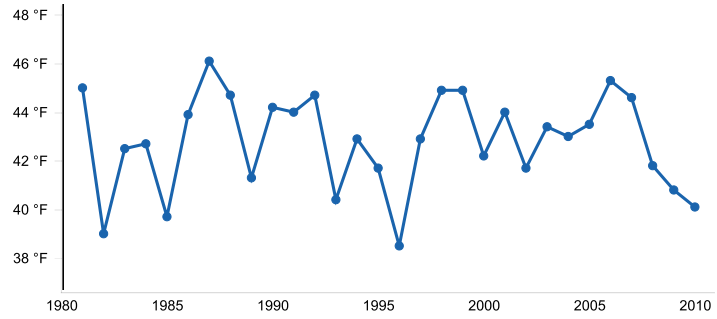


Figure 6. Annual average temperature pattern

Climate stations used

- (1) CHESTER [USC00241692], Chester, MT
- (2) GLASGOW [USW00094008], Glasgow, MT
- (3) HAVRE CITY CO AP [USW00094012], Havre, MT
- (4) SHELBY [USC00247500], Shelby, MT

Influencing water features

This site is not influenced by water from streams.

Wetland description

This site is not influenced by water from wetlands.

Soil features

These soils formed in place in glacial till underlain by shale. Some of the soils formed in material derived from shale or in alluvium derived from glacial till or shale. The alluvium was deposited in the valleys on some of the bordering uplands, low terraces, fans and flood plains. The light brownish gray clay surface layer of these soils is usually less than 5 inches in depth. The clay soils are more than 20 inches deep. Soils are well drained. Permeability is very slow. Soil ph varies from 6.6-8.4. This site is characterized by the following soil components: Abor, Lohler, Marias, Bacovey, and Marvan.

Table 5. Representative soil features

Parent material	(1) Alluvium (2) Till (3) Residuum–shale
Surface texture	(1) Clay loam (2) Silty clay loam (3) Silty clay
Family particle size	(1) Fine
Drainage class	Moderately well drained to well drained
Permeability class	Very slow
Soil depth	20–78 in
Surface fragment cover <=3"	Not specified
Surface fragment cover >3"	Not specified
Available water capacity (Depth not specified)	4–5 in
Electrical conductivity (Depth not specified)	2 mmhos/cm
Sodium adsorption ratio (Depth not specified)	2
Soil reaction (1:1 water) (Depth not specified)	6.1–8.4
Subsurface fragment volume <=3" (Depth not specified)	11%
Subsurface fragment volume >3" (Depth not specified)	2%

Ecological dynamics

This ecological site developed under Northern Great Plains climatic conditions, geological parent materials, fire, biotic factors, and under the natural influence of herbivory. Research consistently shows that precipitation is the principle factor altering productivity on ecological sites in the Northern Great Plains (Heitschmidt et al. 2005). The same authors concluded that grazing reduces herbage standing crop, whereas its effects on above ground net primary production varies with timing of grazing and precipitation events, along with the functional and structural composition of the plant community.

It is theorized that these lands burned on a natural interval of 10-12 years (Frost 1998). Fires were ignited by lightning and by early Americans whom were striving to manipulate their environment. Periodic burns would have favored grasses over shrubs, adversely impacted dense clubmoss, attracted herbivory into an area, and altered nutrient cycling and the hydrologic cycle.

The resultant historic climax plant community (HCPC) is the basis for plant community interpretations. The HCPC was determined by evaluating relic areas, and other areas protected from excessive disturbance. The HCPC is comprised of a mixture of tall and medium height cool and warm season grasses, native forbs and native shrubs. About 80% of the annual production is from grasses and grasslike plants, most of which are produced during the cool season. Forbs and shrubs contribute 15% and 5%, respectively to total annual production. Total vegetative production averages 1300 lbs/ac in normal years, 1800 lbs/ac during favorable years, and 900 lbs/ac during unfavorable years.

This ecological site is highly resistant and resilient to disturbance as it has only minor soil limitations for plant growth. Departures from HCPC generally result from management actions, drought, colonization and recruitment of noxious weeds, and a change in the natural fire regime. Under continued adverse impacts, vegetative vigor declines and the HCPC species are gradually out-competed by lower-successional species. This shift in species composition is most evident as the deep-rooted cool season perennial grasses (such as green needlegrass and western/thickspike wheatgrasses) are replaced by short warm season grasses (blue grama, sandberg bluegrass), fringed sagewort (a half-shrub), and forbs including western wallflower, scarlet globemallow, western yarrow and biscuitroot. The dominance of these short grasses, non-nitrogenous-fixing forbs, and warm season half-shrubs disrupts ecological processes, impairs the biotic integrity of the site, and restricts the system's ability to recover to higher seral states. Thus, the site loses much of its resiliency.

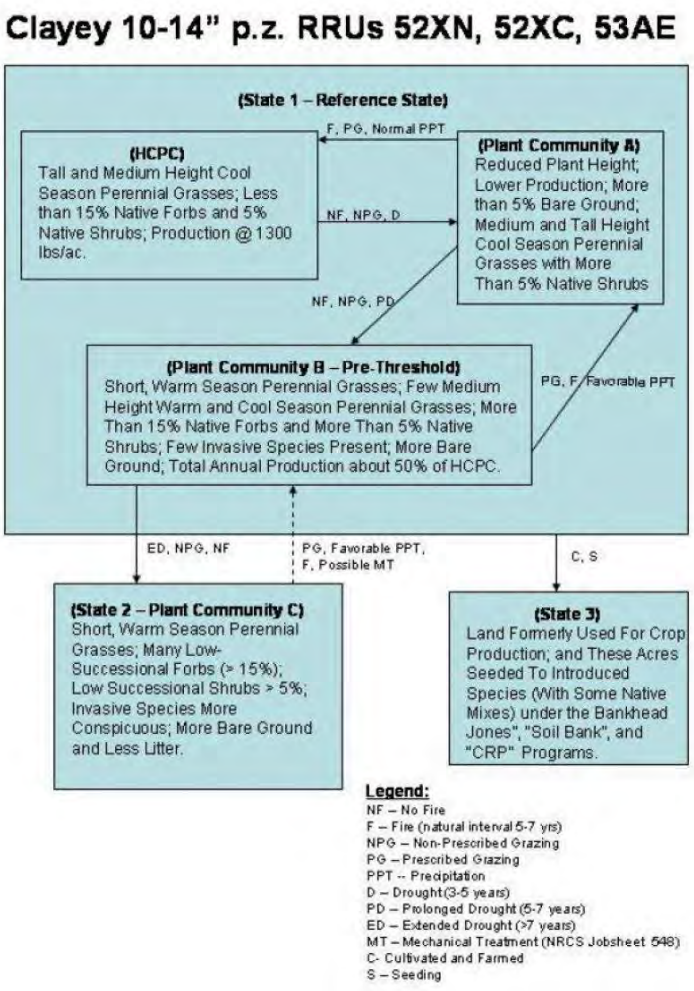
State and Transition Diagram

Traditional theories of plant succession leading to a single climax community are inadequate for understanding the complex successional pathways of this ecological site in the glaciated plains (Briske et al 2005). This site is more aptly described using state-and-transition vegetation dynamics in a non-linear framework. A "state" is an alternative, persistent vegetation community that is not simply reversible in the linear successional framework. States are depicted as seral stages, while pathways between states are "transitions." The latter can be transient or persisting (crosses a threshold). Transitions are triggered by climatic events, fire, grazing, farming, burning, etc.

Three important plant communities and the successional pathways that commonly occur within the reference state (State 1), are shown in the following diagram. In addition, the transition from Plant Community B (State 1) to Plant Community C (State 2),

and a transition from State 1 to State 3 are also illustrated. Ecological processes are discussed in the plant community descriptions which follow the diagram.

State and transition model



State 1
Reference

Community 1.1
Historic Climax Plant Community (HCPC) Tall- and medium-height cool-season perennial grasses, less than 15 percent native forbs, and 5 percent native shrubs.

Tall- and medium-height cool-season perennial grasses, less than 15 percent native forbs, and 5 percent native shrubs, production@1300 lbs/ac. The interpretive plant community for this site is the Historic Climax Plant Community (HCPC). Cool season, tall and mid-grasses (such as bluebunch wheatgrass, green needlegrass, western wheatgrass, and thickspike wheatgrass) dominate the HCPC. Prairie junegrass is the most common short grass. Other short grasses and sedges include plains reedgrass, threadleaf sedge and needleleaf sedge. Bluebunch wheatgrass is a dominant species on the Clayey 10-14" p.z. site in the northern Glaciated Plains. Blue grama is the only common warm season grass. The range inventories on Fort Peck and Fort Belknap Reservations (2001-2004) did not report any sideoats grama or little bluestem on this site. Grasses represent about 80% of the total annual production in the community. Dotted gayfeather, American vetch, white prairie clover and purple prairie clover are warm season forbs that commonly occur on these Clayey 10-14" p.z. sites. American vetch and the prairie clovers are nitrogen-fixing species, and are also valuable forage producing plants. Groundplum milkvetch, scurfpea and prairie thermopsis are lower-successional forbs that have the ability to fix nitrogen. White milkwort, biscuitroot, wild onion and western yarrow may be present as minor components of the plant community. Forbs represent about 15% of the total annual production. Winterfat and Nuttall's saltbush are common warm and cool season shrubs, respectively. They are valuable forage for wildlife and livestock. Silver sagebrush and fringed sagewort, two additional warm season shrub species, may represent a minor component of the HCPC. One would not expect to find more than a trace of broom snakeweed and pricklypear cactus in the HCPC. Very few cool season shrubs grow on the site. Overall, shrubs account for about 5% of the annual plant production. Range inventory data collected (in 2001 and 2004) on the Fort Peck and Fort Belknap Indian Reservations, and previous clipping studies by the NRCS indicate total annual production averages 1300 lbs/ac during normal years. Production varies from 900 to 1800 lbs/ac in unfavorable and favorable years, respectively. Average annual production is expected to increase and decrease, respectively on more mesic and xeric portions of the Glaciated plains. Although similarity indices (SI) >75% are expected to be associated with the HCPC, none were recorded during the recent range inventories on the two Reservations. This plant community is well adapted to the semi-arid, temperate climate that characterizes the glaciated plains. The predominance of cool season species has evolved to take advantage of the precipitation regime that peaks in late spring-early summer (June). Seventy-five percent of the annual precipitation usually falls as steady, soaking, frontal system rains. Summer rains usually come with thunderstorms. Precipitation is the most important factor influencing production. Severe drought occurs on average in two out of every ten years (Cooper, et al., 2001). Annual bromes and other annual species may invade the HCPC following a drought or period of non-prescriptive grazing. Continual adverse impacts over a period of several years will cause a shift in species composition from the mid and tall cool season grasses to warm season grasses and forbs/half-shrubs such as prairie junegrass, plains reedgrass, white milkwort, fringed sagewort, etc. With proper grazing management and/or normal precipitation, the desirable perennial plants regain vigor and competitiveness. The annual opportunistic species normally do not persist for more than a few years. Litter is in contact with 50-60% of the soil surface. Less than 5-10% of the soil surface should be bare, or unprotected by litter, rock, moss, and plant canopy. Rills should not be present and water flow patterns should be barely observable. Soil erosion by wind and water should be minimal.

Table 6. Annual production by plant type

Plant Type	Low (Lb/Acre)	Representative Value (Lb/Acre)	High (Lb/Acre)
Grass/Grasslike	720	1040	1440
Forb	135	195	270
Shrub/Vine	45	65	90

Total	**900**	**1300**	**1800**

Table 7. Ground cover

Tree foliar cover	0%
Shrub/vine/liana foliar cover	0%
Grass/grasslike foliar cover	0%
Forb foliar cover	0%
Non-vascular plants	0-5%
Biological crusts	0-2%
Litter	55-65%
Surface fragments >0.25" and <=3"	0-3%
Surface fragments >3"	0-2%
Bedrock	0%
Water	0%
Bare ground	1-5%

Table 8. Soil surface cover

Tree basal cover	0%
Shrub/vine/liana basal cover	1-5%
Grass/grasslike basal cover	20-25%
Forb basal cover	5-10%
Non-vascular plants	0%
Biological crusts	0%
Litter	0%
Surface fragments >0.25" and <=3"	0%
Surface fragments >3"	0%
Bedrock	0%
Water	0%
Bare ground	0%

Table 9. Canopy structure (% cover)

Height Above Ground (Ft)	Tree	Shrub/Vine	Grass/ Grasslike	Forb
<0.5	–	0-20%	0-10%	0-40%
>0.5 <= 1	–	0-40%	0-30%	0-50%
>1 <= 2	–	0-30%	0-40%	0-8%
>2 <= 4.5	–	0-10%	0-20%	0-2%
>4.5 <= 13	–	–	–	–
>13 <= 40	–	–	–	–
>40 <= 80	–	–	–	–
>80 <= 120	–	–	–	–
>120	–	–	–	–

Community 1.2
Plant Community A Reduced plant height, lower production, more than 5 percent bare ground, medium- and tall-height cool-season perennial grasses with more than 5 percent native shrubs.

Reduced plant height, lower production, more than 5 percent bare ground, medium- and tall-height cool-season perennial grasses with more than 5 percent native shrubs. A plant height shift to lower stature plants distinguishes Community A from the HCPC. Although cool season perennial grasses (bluebunch wheatgrass, western/thickspike wheatgrass and green needlegrass) still dominate the vegetative community, the percentage of short stature cool and warm season perennial plants such as prairie junegrass and blue grama has increased. Fringed sagewort and silver sagebrush often increase in abundance and contribute more than 5% of the total production. Total vegetative production decreases to about 1050 lbs/ac, or 80% of HCPC. Basal cover provided by plants decreases to 25%, while litter cover decreases to 40%. Careful examination will yield slight evidence of rills and surface water runoff.

Community 1.3
Plant Community B - Pre-threshold Short, warm-season perennial grasses, few medium-height warm- and cool-season perennial grasses, more than 15% native forbs and more than 5% native shrubs, few invasive species present, more bare ground.

Short, warm-season perennial grasses, few medium-height warm- and cool-season perennial grasses, more than 15% native forbs and more than 5% native shrubs, few invasive species present, more bare ground, total annual production about 50% of HCPC. Vegetative production averages about 800 lbs/ac in this Community. The community is dominated by short, warm and cool season perennial grasses. Production of western and thickspike wheatgrass, green needlegrass, and bluebunch wheatgrass is greatly reduced. The production, composition and diversity of cool season mid and tall grasses in the plant community have been significantly reduced. Production of hairy goldenaster, western yarrow, hoods phlox, scurfpea, and other lower-successional native forbs increased. Fringed sagewort and silver sagebrush make up more than 5% of the total vegetative production. Plant replacement (seedlings and young plants) will be weighted in favor of opportunistic warm season species. Recruitment of mid and tall height cool season grasses is limited to only be a few seedlings and young plants. Japanese brome and other annual grasses occur on the site. Japanese brome density will be highest in microsites, where there is excess moisture or an abundance of litter, or in disturbed areas (rodent mounds, roads, trails, etc.). This community is characterized by a functional shift from a cool season dominant to a mix of warm and cool season species. The warm season plants are less well-adapted to exploit the precipitation and temperature conditions during May and June. Consequently, less solar energy is captured and converted to carbohydrates. The transfer of energy through the site has been adversely impacted. The site also tends to be more xeric as evaporation and runoff increases. Plant community B is called the “pre-threshold community.” It is critical that this community be recognized and management strategies implemented to prevent further regression. Although

this community can improve to either Community A or HCPC through successional processes, further disturbances will result in regression to a lower state. Succession from a lower state (State 2) to State 1 is unlikely without significant inputs into the system.

Pathway 1.1A
Community 1.1 to 1.2

No fire, non-prescribed grazing, drought (3 to 5 years) Non-prescribed grazing, drought, insect infestations (grasshopper, etc) and/or a cessation of fire will cause regression from HCPC to Community A.

Pathway 1.2A
Community 1.2 to 1.1

Fire (natural interval 5 to 7 years), prescribed grazing, normal precipitation Favorable growing conditions, the implementation of prescribed grazing, or the reintroduction of periodic fire into the system will move Plant Community A to the HCPC. This succession can occur within a couple of years.

Pathway 1.2B
Community 1.2 to 1.3

No fire, non-prescribed grazing, prolonged drought (5 to 7 years) Community A will regress to Community B under non-prescribed grazing, prolonged drought (5 to 7 years), or an extended period of no fire (greater than 7 years). The rate of regression varies with the intensity and frequency of disturbances

Pathway 1.3A
Community 1.3 to 1.2

Prescribed grazing, fire (natural interfal 5 to 7 years), favorable precipitation The Clayey 10-14" p.z. site is resistant within the reference state. It is also resilient. Prescribed grazing, the re-implementation of the natural fire regime and/or a period of favorable precipitation will induce successional changes toward the HCPC. Succession will normally occur within a few years.

State 2
Degraded

Community 2.1
Plant Community C Short, warm-season perennial grasses, many low-successional forbs (greater than 15 percent), low successional shrubs greater than 5 percent, invasive species more conspicuous, more bare ground and less litter.

Short, warm-season perennial grasses, many low-successional forbs (greater than 15 percent), low successional shrubs greater than 5 percent, invasive species more conspicuous, more bare ground and less litter. State 2 Plant Community C is dominated by warm season species (blue grama, prairie junegrass, sandberg bluegrass and other short grasses). Both the percentage of total forbs on the site and the percentage of warm season forbs, with respect to percent of cool season forbs have increased. Curlycup gumweed, a warm season biennial plant will often establish in disturbed areas. Silver sagebrush may either increase or decrease in this State; however fringed sagewort normally increases. Prickly pear and brittle cacti usually increase in abundance. Broom snakeweed may encroach onto the site. Annual grasses such as Japanese brome and cheatgrass often increase in abundance until they actually dominate portions of the community. Dense clubmoss, a low growing, vascular cryptogam forms a carpet-like mat that provides up to 30% ground cover in some of these communities. Total vegetative production in a normal year is usually less than 500 lbs/ac. Many resource concerns exist in this State. There is little or no regeneration of cool season perennial grasses and cool season forbs/shrubs. Litter is inadequate to protect the soil from erosion by wind and water. Surface erosion is moderate to severe, and there is more bare ground than expected. Rills, water flow patterns, and pedestals are evident.

State 3
Converted

Community 3.1
Seeded Community Land formerly used for crop production, and these acres seeded to introduced species (with some native mixes) under Bankhead Jones, Soil Bank, and CRP Programs.

Land formerly used for crop production, and these acres seeded to introduced species (with some native mixes) under Bankhead Jones, Soil Bank, and CRP Programs. More than one million acres of former cropland in the Glaciated Plains have been seeded to introduced and native species. These seedings resulted from society's concerns regarding land stewardship and erosion, and have been largely funded by the Federal Government. The government programs have spanned from the 1940s (Bankhead Jones Act) to the present (Conservation Reserve Program - CRP). Crested wheatgrass was the primary species seeded under the direction of the Bankhead Jones Act. Crested wheatgrass, intermediate wheatgrass, smooth brome and some native grasses were seeded during several Soil Bank Programs of the 1960-1970 era. Both introduced species and native species were seeded during the CRP (1985-present). There are over 220,000 acres of CRP in Valley County alone. The future of these Communities is not predicted in the S&T model. Depending on government programs and agricultural prices, these lands could stay in permanent vegetation with limited haying and grazing, be used as pasture for grazing livestock, or be converted to cropland.

Transition T1A
State 1 to 2

Extended drought (greater than 7 years), non-prescribed grazing, no fire Community B is not highly resistant to regression. In comparison to higher seral stages there is less vegetative production, less litter, and increased bare ground. Extended drought (longer than 7 consecutive years) and non-prescribed grazing can quickly cause regression to a lower state (State 2).

Transition T1B
State 1 to 3

Cultivated and farmed, seeding

Restoration pathway R2A
State 2 to 1

Prescribed grazing, favorable precipitation, fire (natural interval 5 to 7 years), possible mechanical treatment (NRCS job sheet 548) This plant community is resistant to change, it is a steady state. The short grasses tend to form a sod that prevents seedling establishment of higher successional species. Less than 10% of the seed bank in State 2 is comprised of seed from cool season perennial plants (Romo and Bai 2004). Thus, potential for succession is limited without significant inputs. Prescribed grazing minimizes the risk of further regression and enhances the potential for succession to State 1. The combination of prescribed grazing, a natural fire regime, and a prolonged period of favorable precipitation may allow significant succession in communities that have less than 20% clubmoss cover. This potential is depicted with the dashed line in the state and transition model. . Mechanical treatments may be feasible in areas where potential erosion is not a concern. However, mechanical treatments are not normally recommended on soils with a clay content > 60%. Grazing management practices following a mechanical treatment must be prescribed to address deferment, stocking rates, season of grazing, and other considerations (NRCS Conservation Practice 548). Failure to do so will adversely affect economic returns and is likely to result in retrogression rather than plant succession.

Additional community tables

Table 10. Community 1.1 plant community composition

Group	Common Name	Symbol	Scientific Name	Annual Production (Lb/Acre)	Foliar Cover (%)
Grass/Grasslike					
1	**Cool-season Bunchgrasses**			690–1110	
	green needlegrass	NAVI4	*Nassella viridula*	390–590	–
	bluebunch wheatgrass	PSSP6	*Pseudoroegneria spicata*	300–520	–
2	**Rhizomatous Wheatgrasses**			390–590	
	western wheatgrass	PASM	*Pascopyrum smithii*	195–325	–
	tufted wheatgrass	ELMA7	*Elymus macrourus*	195–325	–
3	**Miscellaneous Grasses**			13–130	
	threadleaf sedge	CAFI	*Carex filifolia*	13–65	–
	needleleaf sedge	CADU6	*Carex duriuscula*	13–65	–
	Sandberg bluegrass	POSE	*Poa secunda*	13–65	–
	prairie Junegrass	KOMA	*Koeleria macrantha*	13–65	–
	plains reedgrass	CAMO	*Calamagrostis montanensis*	13–65	–
	blue grama	BOGR2	*Bouteloua gracilis*	13–65	–
	Grass, native	2GN	*Grass, native*	13–65	–
Forb					
4	**Dominant Forbs**			13–65	
	dotted blazing star	LIPU	*Liatris punctata*	13–65	–
	American vetch	VIAM	*Vicia americana*	13–65	–
5	**Clovers**			26–130	
	purple prairie clover	DAPU5	*Dalea purpurea*	13–65	–
	white prairie clover	DACA7	*Dalea candida*	13–65	–
6	**Miscellaneous Forbs**			0–100	
	beardtongue	PENST	*Penstemon*	0–65	–
	Missouri goldenrod	SOMI2	*Solidago missouriensis*	0–65	–
	common yarrow	ACMI2	*Achillea millefolium*	0–65	–
	aster	ASTER	*Aster*	0–65	–
	scarlet globemallow	SPCO	*Sphaeralcea coccinea*	0–65	–
	scurfpea	PSORA2	*Psoralidium*	0–65	–
	hairy false goldenaster	HEVI4	*Heterotheca villosa*	0–65	–
	upright prairie coneflower	RACO3	*Ratibida columnifera*	0–65	–
	prairie thermopsis	THRH	*Thermopsis rhombifolia*	0–65	–
	pussytoes	ANTEN	*Antennaria*	0–65	–
	bastard toadflax	COUM	*Comandra umbellata*	0–65	–
	white milkwort	POAL4	*Polygala alba*	0–65	–
	milkvetch	ASTRA	*Astragalus*	0–65	–
	groundplum milkvetch	ASCR2	*Astragalus crassicarpus*	0–65	–
	spiny phlox	PHHO	*Phlox hoodii*	0–65	–
	buckwheat	ERIOG	*Eriogonum*	0–65	–

	lesser spikemoss	SEDE2	*Selaginella densa*	0–65	–
	Forb, native	2FN	*Forb, native*	0–65	–
Shrub/Vine					
7	**Dominant Shrubs**			26–65	
	winterfat	KRLA2	*Krascheninnikovia lanata*	13–65	–
	Nuttall's saltbush	ATNU2	*Atriplex nuttallii*	13–65	–
8	**Miscellaneous Shrubs**			0–65	
	rubber rabbitbrush	ERNA10	*Ericameria nauseosa*	0–65	–
	silver sagebrush	ARCA13	*Artemisia cana*	0–65	–
	snowberry	SYMPH	*Symphoricarpos*	0–65	–
	prairie sagewort	ARFR4	*Artemisia frigida*	0–65	–
	rose	ROSA5	*Rosa*	0–65	–
	creeping juniper	JUHO2	*Juniperus horizontalis*	0–65	–
	Shrub (>.5m)	2SHRUB	*Shrub (>.5m)*	0–65	–
	broom snakeweed	GUSA2	*Gutierrezia sarothrae*	0–1	–
	plains pricklypear	OPPO	*Opuntia polyacantha*	0–1	–
	brittle pricklypear	OPFR	*Opuntia fragilis*	0–1	–

Animal community

Livestock Management

This site evolved with trampling, defoliation (grasshoppers, jackrabbits, deer, elk, bison, antelope, prairie dogs and other herbivores), fire and drought. The site is highly resistant and resilient to disturbances which may alter its ecological processes. Following perturbations such as drought, which allows blue grama and other short grasses to increase at the expense of the mid and tall grasses, succession occurs during years of favorable precipitation. The site has the potential to produce 900-1800 lbs of forage per acre. Under typical grazing practices, very few livestock losses are reported from poisonous plants.

Forage production shows far greater variations in response to changes in annual precipitation than to different grazing intensities (Branson, 1985). However, proper stocking rates and a planned grazing system are needed to ensure that the site remains in a high seral or HCPC state. Without proper grazing management the mid-to-tall grass community will regress to an early seral state (blue grama, prairie junegrass, sandberg bluegrass, hoods phlox, wooly plantain, and annual bromes).

Suggested stocking rates decrease from about 2.8 acres/AUM in the HCPC to about 10 acres/AUM in the early seral state (State 2). Plant succession in communities that are inhabited with prairie dogs is unlikely until the prairie dogs are controlled.

This site is usually grazed by livestock from May through October. Some ranchers utilize the Clayey 10-14” p.z. ecological site for fall and early winter grazing. However, storms are a threat. It is recommended that livestock either have access to adjacent wooded draws, or provide a good animal trail leading to headquarters for protection in winter and during storm events. Because of the predominant wheatgrass composition, the site is better-suited for cattle, rather than sheep grazing.

Wildlife Interpretations

The Clayey 10-14” p.z. ecological site that is in the reference state (State 1) provides forage for mule deer and antelope during most of the year. However, the overall forage potential is limited by the relatively low production and diversity of forbs and shrubs. Low shrub cover also limits the potential of the site for thermal and escape cover. Most deer use on the site occurs along the edges where it borders woody draws, badland range sites, etc.

The species diversity and cover associated with the HCPC and with other communities in State #1 provides habitat for sharp-tailed grouse and other upland birds. Much of the use occurs along the ecotones between the Clayey 10-14” p.z. site and wooded draws where deciduous tree and shrub cover increase. The relative absence of big sagebrush limits the potential of this site for sage grouse habitat. The few sage grouse that exist in the Glaciated Plains are usually associated with silver sagebrush.

Species diversity and litter also provide favorable habitats for deer mice, rabbits and other small mammals. Golden eagles, redtail and ferruginous hawks are often circling over the landscape searching for prey.

Sites that are characterized by communities in mid to early seral stages are less suitable for big game, upland birds and small mammals. However, they are more suitable for prairie dogs. Prairie dog towns also have potential for use by burrowing owls, upland plovers, and other wildlife species.

Hydrological functions

Soils series in the Clayey 10-14” p.z. fall into the C and D hydrologic groups. Runoff potential varies from low to high, depending on slope, ground cover, and rangeland health. Infiltration rates also vary with environmental conditions.

Good hydrologic conditions exist on this site when it is in State #1. Canopy cover (grass, forbs and shrubs) is greater than 90% in these communities. Plant cover and litter are adequate to optimize infiltration and minimize runoff and erosion. Sites in early

or low seral state (State #2) are generally considered to be in poor hydrologic condition.

Recreational uses

Hunters are probably the most common recreational user of Clayey 10-14" p.z. ecological sites. The site is also used by hikers and photographers.

Wood products

None

Other products

None

Inventory data references

Data Source Number of Records Sample Period State County
SCS-Range-417 3 (1991-1992) MT Phillips
ECS-1
Modified Double Sampling 19 2001-2004 MT Blaine, Roosevelt, Sheridan,
Phillips
Valley

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Contributors

Kirt Walstad

Approval

Kirt Walstad, 4/01/2025

Acknowledgments

Site Description Revision(s)
This 2005 revision replaces the following technical range site descriptions in Section II-E-8 of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide:
Clayey 10-14" p.z. – Western Glaciated Plains (RRU 52XN), dated August 1981.
This 2005 revision incorporates the State and Transition Model theory, additional data on site productivity, and an improved understanding of many rangeland health indicators.
Site Description Approval
This ecological site description is approved with the understanding that it is no more than another step in our continual effort to update the NRCS ecological database. In order to facilitate the process, NRCS field personnel are encouraged to forward existing information and/or new data that can be used to improve the utility of this site description. Please forward the information and data to the State Rangeland Management Specialist.
Author Date Approval Date
Dr. John Lacey 02/23/2005 Loretta J. Metz 03/19/2005
Maxine Rasmussen, Area RMS, Glasgow, MT
Jon Siddoway, Area RMS, Great Falls, MT
Rick Bandy, Area RSS, Great Falls, MT
Greg Snell, Area RSS, Glasgow, MT

Rangeland health reference sheet

Interpreting Indicators of Rangeland Health is a qualitative assessment protocol used to determine ecosystem condition based on benchmark characteristics described in the Reference Sheet. A suite of 17 (or more) indicators are typically considered in an assessment. The ecological site(s) representative of an assessment location must be known prior to applying the protocol and must be verified based on soils and climate. Current plant community cannot be used to identify the ecological site.

Author(s)/participant(s)	Siddow ay/Bandy
Contact for lead author	Great Falls Area Office, Great Falls, MT Reference site used? No
Date	04/19/2005
Approved by	Kirt Walstad
Approval date	

Composition (Indicators 10 and 12) based on	Annual Production

Indicators

1. **Number and extent of rills:** Slopes most common on this site are between 0 – 8% and with at least 95% of the soil surface well-covered there are no rills even with the most extreme convection storms. Rills would be rare on slopes of 9 – 15%.

2. **Presence of water flow patterns:** Due to the soil surface being well covered and minimal slope there is no evidence of past or current soil deposition or erosion for this site on slopes of <6% - may be small areas with patterns on slopes >6%.

3. **Number and height of erosional pedestals or terracettes:** Wind and water erosion will not be evident on this site, so pedestals and terracettes will not be present.

4. **Bare ground from Ecological Site Description or other studies (rock, litter, lichen, moss, plant canopy are not bare ground):** Bare ground should be 5% or less on this site.

5. **Number of gullies and erosion associated with gullies:** Gully erosion will not be evident on this site.

6. **Extent of wind scoured, blowouts and/or depositional areas:** Appearance or evidence of these erosional features on the landscape would not be present on this site.

7. **Amount of litter movement (describe size and distance expected to travel):** Because the site is dominated by the taller bunchgrasses, litter size will reflect the height and diameter of the reproductive culms and leaves of these grasses as well as the lesser dominate mid-size grasses.

8. **Soil surface (top few mm) resistance to erosion (stability values are averages - most sites will show a range of values):** Resistance to erosion will be high with soil stability values of 5 or 6; areas of bare soil on this site may have values less than 5 if not under plant canopy.

9. **Soil surface structure and SOM content (include type of structure and A-horizon color and thickness):** Soil surface structure is granular; A horizon depth is 3 – 5”.

10. **Effect of community phase composition (relative proportion of different functional groups) and spatial distribution on infiltration and runoff:** Dominance of taller, deep rooted bunchgrasses will maximize infiltration and minimize runoff throughout the site.

11. **Presence and thickness of compaction layer (usually none; describe soil profile features which may be mistaken for compaction on this site):** Will not be present generally, but there may be areas that have “healed” from former bison trails and wallows which could have a compaction layer below the soil surface.

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12. **Functional/Structural Groups (list in order of descending dominance by above-ground annual-production or live foliar cover using symbols: >>, >, = to indicate much greater than, greater than, and equal to):**

    Dominant:

    Sub-dominant:

    Other:

    Additional: Cool season, taller grasses (Green needlegrass, Bluebunch wheatgrass) > cool season rhizomatous grasses (Western wheatgrasses (Prairie junegrass) > warm season shortgrass (Blue grama) = shrubs.

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13. **Amount of plant mortality and decadence (include which functional groups are expected to show mortality or decadence):** Will be low for all functional groups in a given year. Prolonged droughts which last more than 3 years may show increases in mortality and decadence for all plant groups.

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14. **Average percent litter cover (%) and depth (in):**

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15. **Expected annual annual-production (this is TOTAL above-ground annual-production, not just forage annual-production):** 1000 - 1600 #/acre. This would be the expected production for the reference state during adequate moisture years. 1300pounds would be the expected production in a 12 inch precipitation zone.

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16. **Potential invasive (including noxious) species (native and non-native). List species which BOTH characterize degraded states and have the potential to become a dominant or co-dominant species on the ecological site if their future establishment and growth is not actively controlled by management interventions. Species that become dominant for only one to several years (e.g., short-term response to drought or wildfire) are not invasive plants. Note that unlike other indicators, we are describing what is NOT expected in the reference state for the ecological site:** Blue grama, Japanese brome, a variety of annual or biennial weedy forbs, fringed sagewort, broom snakeweed, prickly pear cactus, cheatgrass

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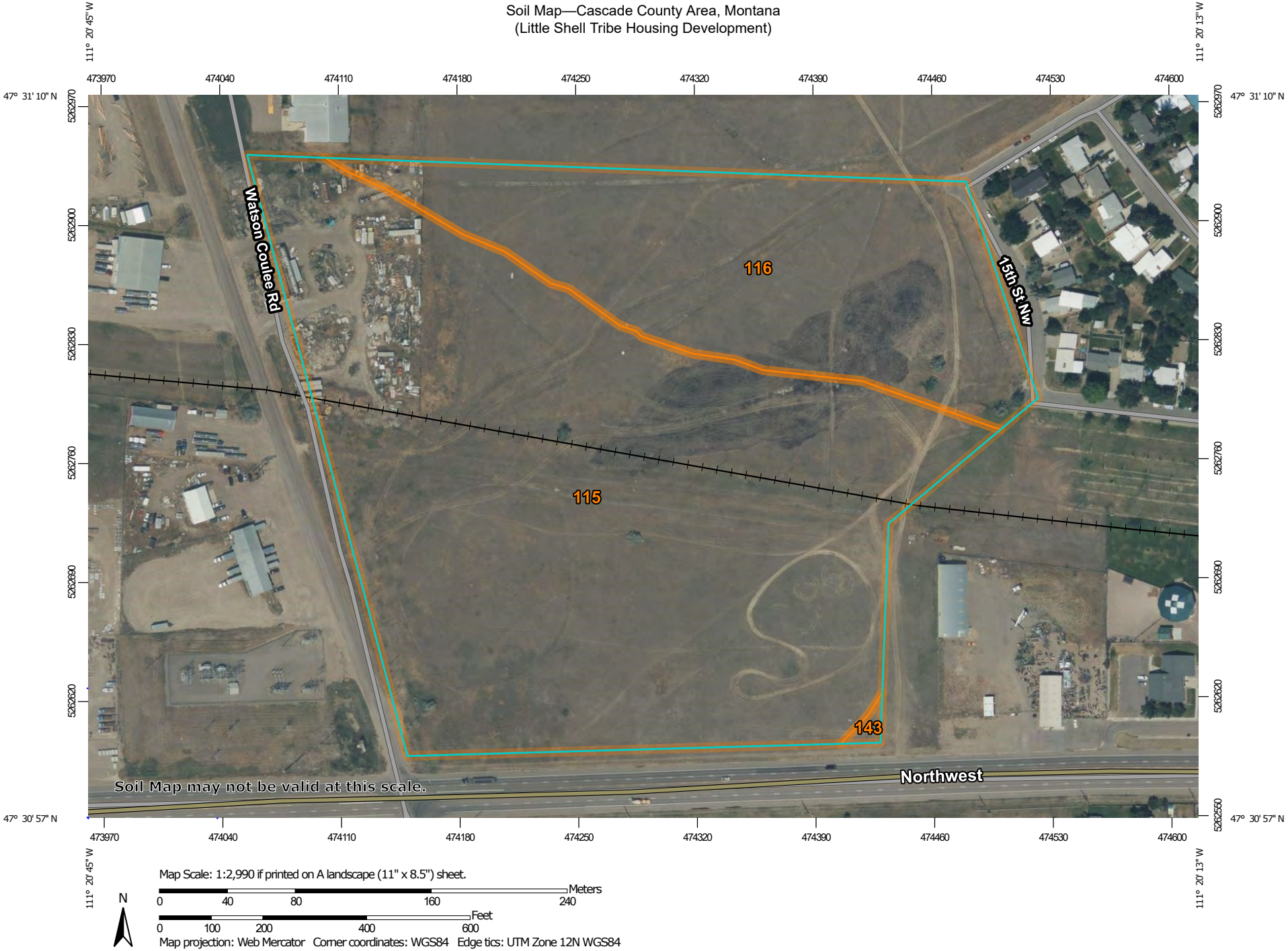
17. **Perennial plant reproductive capability:** During adequate moisture years bunchgrasses will generally produce seeds,however the cool season rhizomatous grasses may not necessarily produce seed even with adequate moisture.

Soil Map—Cascade County Area, Montana
(Little Shell Tribe Housing Development)



Map Scale: 1:2,990 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.

N

Meters: 0 40 80 160 240

Feet: 0 100 200 400 600

Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 12N WGS84

MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)
- Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils
- Soil Map Unit Polygons
- Soil Map Unit Lines
- Soil Map Unit Points

Special Point Features
- Blowout
- Borrow Pit
- Clay Spot
- Closed Depression
- Gravel Pit
- Gravelly Spot
- Landfill
- Lava Flow
- Marsh or swamp
- Mine or Quarry
- Miscellaneous Water
- Perennial Water
- Rock Outcrop
- Saline Spot
- Sandy Spot
- Severely Eroded Spot
- Sinkhole
- Slide or Slip
- Sodic Spot
- Spoil Area
- Stony Spot
- Very Stony Spot
- Wet Spot
- Other
- Special Line Features

Water Features
- Streams and Canals

Transportation
- Rails
- Interstate Highways
- US Routes
- Major Roads
- Local Roads

Background
- Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
Web Soil Survey URL:
Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Cascade County Area, Montana
Survey Area Data: Version 20, Aug 22, 2024

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Jul 6, 2021—Sep 30, 2021

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
115	Kobar silty clay loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes	22.3	72.1%
116	Kobar silty clay loam, 4 to 8 percent slopes	8.6	27.7%
143	Marvan clay, 0 to 2 percent slopes	0.1	0.2%
Totals for Area of Interest		**31.0**	**100.0%**

Search

Soil Reports

Open All | Close All

- AOI Inventory
- **Building Site Development**
  - Dwellings and Small Commercial Buildings
    - View Description | View Soil Report
    - **Options**
    - Include minor soils? ☐
    - View Description | View Soil Report
  - Construction Materials
  - Disaster Recovery Planning
- **Land Classifications**
  - Conservation Tree and Shrub Suitability Groups
  - Forage Suitability Groups
  - Hydric Soil List - All Components
  - Hydric Soils
  - Land Capability Classification
  - NCCPI Overall
  - Prime and other Important Farmlands
  - Taxonomic Classification of the Soils
- Land Management
- Recreational Development
- Sanitary Facilities
- Soil Chemical Properties
- Soil Erosion
- Soil Health
- Soil Physical Properties
- Soil Qualities and Features
- Vegetative Productivity
- Waste Management
- Water Features
- Water Management

Soil Map

Scale (not to scale)

Report — Dwellings and Small Commercial Buildings

Onsite investigation may be needed to validate the interpretations in this table and to confirm the identity of the soil on a given site. The numbers in the value columns range from 0.01 to 1.00. The larger the value, the greater the potential limitation. The table shows only the top five limitations for any given soil. The soil may have additional limitations.

Cascade County Area, Montana

Map symbol and soil name	Pct. of map unit	Dwellings without basements		Dwellings with basements		Small commercial buildings	
		Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value
115—Kobar silty clay							

Cascade County Area, Montana							
loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes							
Kobar	90	Very limited		Very limited		Very limited	
		Shrink-swell	1.00	Shrink-swell	1.00	Shrink-swell	1.00
116—Kobar silty clay loam, 4 to 8 percent slopes							
Kobar	90	Very limited		Very limited		Very limited	
		Shrink-swell	1.00	Shrink-swell	1.00	Shrink-swell	1.00
						Slope	0.52

Description — Dwellings and Small Commercial Buildings

Dwellings and Small Commercial Buildings

Soil properties influence the development of building sites, including the selection of the site, the design of the structure, construction, performance after construction, and maintenance. This table shows the degree and kind of soil limitations that affect dwellings and small commercial buildings.

The ratings in the table are both verbal and numerical. Rating class terms indicate the extent to which the soils are limited by all of the soil features that affect building site development. *Not limited* indicates that the soil has features that are very favorable for the specified use. Good performance and very low maintenance can be expected. *Somewhat limited* indicates that the soil has features that are moderately favorable for the specified use. The limitations can be overcome or minimized by special planning, design, or installation. Fair performance and moderate maintenance can be expected. *Very limited* indicates that the soil has one or more features that are unfavorable for the specified use. The limitations generally cannot be overcome without major soil reclamation, special design, or expensive installation procedures. Poor performance and high maintenance can be expected.

Numerical ratings in the table indicate the severity of individual limitations. The ratings are shown as decimal fractions ranging from 0.01 to 1.00. They indicate gradations between the point at which a soil feature has the greatest negative impact on the use (1.00) and the point at which the soil feature is not a limitation (0.00).

Dwellings are single-family houses of three stories or less. For dwellings without basements, the foundation is assumed to consist of spread footings of reinforced concrete built on undisturbed soil at a depth of 2 feet or at the depth of maximum frost penetration, whichever is deeper. For dwellings with basements, the foundation is assumed to consist of spread footings of reinforced concrete built on undisturbed soil at a depth of about 7 feet. The ratings for dwellings are based on the soil properties that affect the capacity of the soil to support a load without movement and on the properties that affect excavation and construction costs. The properties that affect the load-supporting capacity include depth to a water table, ponding, flooding, subsidence, linear extensibility (shrink-swell potential), and compressibility. Compressibility is inferred from the Unified classification. The properties that affect the ease and amount of excavation include depth to a water table, ponding, flooding, slope, depth to bedrock or a cemented pan, hardness of bedrock or a cemented pan, and the amount and size of rock fragments.

Small commercial buildings are structures that are less than three stories high and do not have basements. The foundation is assumed to consist of spread footings of reinforced concrete built on undisturbed soil at a depth of 2 feet or at the depth of maximum frost penetration, whichever is deeper. The ratings are based on the soil properties that affect the capacity of the soil to support a load without movement and on the properties that affect excavation and construction costs. The properties that affect the load-supporting capacity include depth to a water table, ponding, flooding, subsidence, linear extensibility (shrink-swell potential), and compressibility (which is inferred from the Unified classification). The properties that affect the ease and amount of excavation include flooding, depth to a water table, ponding, slope, depth to bedrock or a cemented pan, hardness of bedrock or a cemented pan, and the amount and size of rock fragments.

Information in this table is intended for land use planning, for evaluating land use alternatives, and for planning site investigations prior to design and construction. The information, however, has limitations. For example, estimates and other data generally apply only to that part of the soil between the surface and a depth of 5 to 7 feet. Because of the map scale, small areas of different soils may be included within the mapped areas of a specific soil.

The information is not site specific and does not eliminate the need for onsite investigation of the soils or for testing and analysis by personnel experienced in the design and construction of engineering works.

Government ordinances and regulations that restrict certain land uses or impose specific design criteria were not considered in preparing the information in this table. Local ordinances and regulations should be considered in planning, in site selection, and in design.

Search

Soil Reports

Open All | Close All

- AOI Inventory
- **Building Site Development**
  - Dwellings and Small Commercial Buildings
- Construction Materials
- Disaster Recovery Planning
- **Land Classifications**
  - Conservation Tree and Shrub Suitability Groups
  - Forage Suitability Groups
  - Hydric Soil List - All Components
  - Hydric Soils
  - Land Capability Classification
  - NCCPI Overall
  - Prime and other Important Farmlands

    View Description | View Soil Report

    Options

    This report has no options.

    View Description | View Soil Report
  - Taxonomic Classification of the Soils
- **Land Management**
  - Damage by Fire and Seedling Mortality on Forestland
  - Forestland Planting and Harvesting
  - Forestland Site Preparation
  - Haul Roads, Log Landings, and Soil Rutting on Forestland
  - Hazard of Erosion and Suitability for Roads on Forestland
  - Rangeland Fencing, Pygmy Rabbit Habitat, and Resistance to Fugitive Dust
  - Rangeland Invasive Species Susceptibility
  - Rangeland Mechanical Treatment by Chaining, Rolling Drum, and Shredder
  - Rangeland Seeding and Rangeland Drill
  - Rangeland Site Degradation and Fire Damage Susceptility
  - Rangeland Tillage, Compaction Resistance, and Soil Restoration
  - Sprinkler Irrigation and Fence Installation (MT)
- Recreational Development
- Sanitary Facilities
- Soil Chemical Properties
- Soil Erosion
- Soil Health
- Soil Physical Properties
- Soil Qualities and Features
- **Vegetative Productivity**
  - Environmental Plantings and Windbreaks
  - Forestland Productivity
  - Forestland Productivity with Site Index Base
  - Irrigated and Nonirrigated Yields by Map Unit Component

Soil Map

Scale (not to scale)

Report — Prime and other Important Farmlands

Cascade County Area, Montana

Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
115	Kobar silty clay loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
116	Kobar silty clay loam, 4 to 8 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance

Description — Prime and other Important Farmlands

Prime and Important Farmland

- Irrigated Yields by Map Unit Component
- Link to Ecological Site Descriptions in EDIT
- Nonirrigated Yields by Map Unit Component
- Nonirrigated Yields for Barley and Oats (MT)
- Nonirrigated Yields for Spring and Winter Wheat (MT)
- Rangeland and Forest Vegetation Classification, Productivity, and Plant Composition
- Rangeland Productivity
- Waste Management
- Water Features
- Water Management

This table lists the map units in the survey area that are considered important farmlands. Important farmlands consist of prime farmland, unique farmland, and farmland of statewide or local importance. This list does not constitute a recommendation for a particular land use.

In an effort to identify the extent and location of important farmlands, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, in cooperation with other interested Federal, State, and local government organizations, has inventoried land that can be used for the production of the Nation's food supply.

Prime farmland is of major importance in meeting the Nation's short- and long-range needs for food and fiber. Because the supply of high-quality farmland is limited, the U.S. Department of Agriculture recognizes that responsible levels of government, as well as individuals, should encourage and facilitate the wise use of our Nation's prime farmland.

Prime farmland, as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and is available for these uses. It could be cultivated land, pastureland, forestland, or other land, but it is not urban or built-up land or water areas. The soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply are those needed for the soil to economically produce sustained high yields of crops when proper management, including water management, and acceptable farming methods are applied. In general, prime farmland has an adequate and dependable supply of moisture from precipitation or irrigation, a favorable temperature and growing season, acceptable acidity or alkalinity, an acceptable salt and sodium content, and few or no rocks. The water supply is dependable and of adequate quality. Prime farmland is permeable to water and air. It is not excessively erodible or saturated with water for long periods, and it either is not frequently flooded during the growing season or is protected from flooding. Slope ranges mainly from 0 to 6 percent. More detailed information about the criteria for prime farmland is available at the local office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

For some of the soils identified in the table as prime farmland, measures that overcome a hazard or limitation, such as flooding, wetness, and droughtiness, are needed. Onsite evaluation is needed to determine whether or not the hazard or limitation has been overcome by corrective measures.

A recent trend in land use in some areas has been the loss of some prime farmland to industrial and urban uses. The loss of prime farmland to other uses puts pressure on marginal lands, which generally are more erodible, droughty, and less productive and cannot be easily cultivated.

Unique farmland is land other than prime farmland that is used for the production of specific high-value food and fiber crops, such as citrus, tree nuts, olives, cranberries, and other fruits and vegetables. It has the special combination of soil quality, growing season, moisture supply, temperature, humidity, air drainage, elevation, and aspect needed for the soil to economically produce sustainable high yields of these crops when properly managed. The water supply is dependable and of adequate quality. Nearness to markets is an additional consideration. Unique farmland is not based on national criteria. It commonly is in areas where there is a special microclimate, such as the wine country in California.

In some areas, land that does not meet the criteria for prime or unique farmland is considered to be *farmland of statewide importance* for the production of food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. The criteria for defining and delineating farmland of statewide importance are determined by the appropriate State agencies. Generally, this land includes areas of soils that nearly meet the requirements for prime farmland and that economically produce high yields of crops when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods. Some areas may produce as high a yield as prime farmland if conditions are favorable. Farmland of statewide importance may include tracts of land that have been designated for agriculture by State law.

In some areas that are not identified as having national or statewide importance, land is considered to be *farmland of local importance* for the production of food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. This farmland is identified by the appropriate local agencies. Farmland of local importance may include tracts of land that have been designated for agriculture by local ordinance.

DOCUMENT 9
SHPO

MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
State Historic Preservation Office

FILE SEARCH REQUEST INVOICE

DATE: 23-Jul-25

SHPO Invoice #: 20250722006

Bill To:

Contact Name: Ryan Vosen
Organization: TD&H Engineering
Address: 32 South Ewing St, Suite 300W
City/State/Zip: Helena MT 59601
Email: ryan.vosen@tdhengineering.com

File Search Fee Structure
$35 / Section Searched

For questions contact:
Damon Murdo
dmurdo@mt.gov
406-444-7767

Project Name:	LITTLE SHELL TRIBE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, GREAT FALLS

Total Cost:	**$35.00**

Total sections searched for SHPO Project #: 20250722006	**1**

Please make all checks payable to:
Montana Historical Society
PO Box 201201
Helena, MT 59620

** PAY ONLINE HERE **
https://opp.mt.gov/doa/opp/HISSHPO/cart

Due upon receipt. Please pay within 30 days.

MTHS Accounting	604	604.1
Use Only	29.75	5.25

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
Montana Cultural Resource Database
Report Township,Range,Section Results
Report Date:7/23/2025

Township:20 N Range:3 E Section: 3

MCLEAN GARY A., ET AL.

9/14/1979 SUN RIVER FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT, TEST EXCAVATIONS AT SITE 24CA74 AND CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY

Report Document Number: CA 6 2073 Agency Document Number:

Township:20 N Range:3 E Section: 3

WOOD GARVEY C.

8/22/2003 CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY OF THE CARAN CELL TOWER IN CASCADE COUNTY MONTANA

Report Document Number: CA 6 26311 Agency Document Number:

Township:20 N Range:3 E Section: 3

AXLINE JON

6/22/2023 CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT: 9TH STREET NW/WATSON COULEE ROAD - GREAT FALLS. CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA.

Report Document Number: CA 4 41908 Agency Document Number: STPU 5299(138)/UPN 9810000

Township:20 N Range:3 E Section: 3

5/22/2024 WATSON COULEE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION, CASCADE COUNTY

Report Document Number: CA 4 43684 Agency Document Number: UPN 10339000

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE Montana Cultural Resource Database

Township, Range, Section Report

Report Date:7/23/2025

Site #	Twp	Rng	Sec	Qs	Site Type 1	Site Type 2	Time Period	Owner	NR Status
24CA0212	20N	3E	3	SE	Historic Residence		Historic Period	Private	NR Listed
24CA0264	20N	3E	3	Comb	Historic Railroad		1900-1909	MDOT Other	Eligible
24CA0386	20N	3E	3	Comb	Historic District		Historic More Than One Decade	MDOT	NR Listed
24CA0371	20N	3E	3	SW	Historic Railroad		Historic More Than One Decade	Combination	Eligible
24CA1796	20N	3E	3	SW	Historic Road		Historic More Than One Decade	Combination	Undetermined*
24CA1859	20N	3E	3	SW	Historic Road		Historic More Than One Decade	Combination	Eligible
24CA1944	20N	3E	3	NE	Historic Residence		1950-1959	Private	Ineligible
24CA1964	20N	3E	3	SW	Historic Commercial Development		1970-1979	Private	Ineligible
24CA1965	20N	3E	3	SW	Historic Residence	Historic Military Site	1940-1949	Private	Ineligible
24CA1966	20N	3E	3	SW	Historic Residence	Historic Military Site	1940-1949	Private	Ineligible
24CA1967	20N	3E	3	SW	Historic Residence	Historic Military Site	1940-1949	Private	Ineligible
24CA1968	20N	3E	3	SW	Historic Residence		1950-1959	Private	Ineligible
24CA1969	20N	3E	3	SW	Historic Commercial Development		1950-1959	Private	Ineligible
24CA1970	20N	3E	3	SW	Historic Gas Station		1970-1979	Private	Ineligible
24CA1980	20N	3E	3	SE	Historic Residence		1940-1949	Private	Unresolved

DOCUMENT 10
NOISE

Montana Railroads and Public At-Grade Railroad Crossings

MONTANA Department of Transportation

Legend | Layers

MT Public At-Grade Rail Crossings

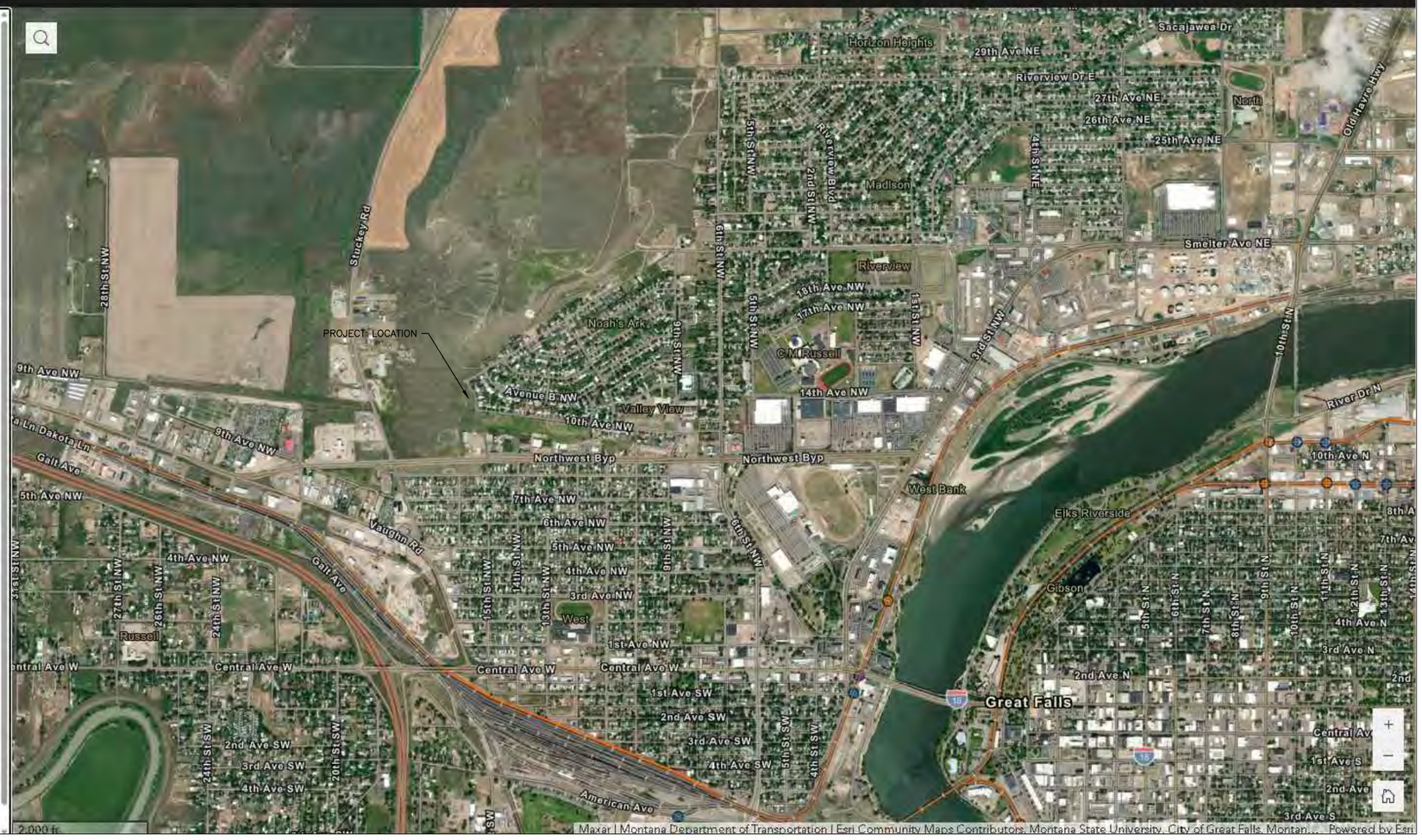
- NONE
- CROSSBUCKS
- STOP SIGNS
- POST FLASHING LIGHTS
- CANTILEVERS
- GATES
- GATES + CANTILEVERS
- OTHER
- UNKNOWN

RAIL

Railroads (<1,000,000)

SERVICE

- BNSF Railway
- BNSF Railway (Inactive)
- Union Pacific
- Montana Rail Link
- Montana Rail Link (Inactive)
- Dakota, Missouri Valley and Western Railroad
- Butte, Anaconda & Pacific Railway
- Central Montana Rail, Inc.
- Central Montana Rail, Inc. (Inactive)
- Mission Mountain Railroad
- Port of Montana
- Global Rail Group
- Transco Railway Products, Inc.
- Alder Gulch Short Line Railway
- Lincoln County Port Authority



NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

REV	DATE	REVISION

TD&H Engineering
tdhengineering.com

DRAWN BY:
DESIGNED BY:
QUALITY CHECK:
DATE:
JOB NO.
FIELDBOOK

24-126 Little Shell Tribe Development
Great Falls, MT

Railroad Crossing Map

FIGURES2.DWG

SHEET

PAGE SETUP 2023_TDH_22X34_AS_11X17_L
PRINTED 2025-07-29, BY RYAN VOSEN, I:\2024\GIF\24-126 LITTLE SHELL TRIBE DEV MASTER\06_CADD\LANDSCAPE\FIGURES\FIGURES2.DWG

National Transportation Noise Map

Enter Location:

Map: Dark Satellite

Vaughn South Frontage Road

Vaughn South Frontage Road

Vaughn South Frontage Road

Sun River

Sunset Memorial Gardens

I 15;US 89;MT 200

Vaughn Road

Wadsworth Park

Northwest Bypass

Vaughn Road

Montana ExpoPark

Central Avenue West

Old Havre Highway

Black Eagle

Elk's Riverside Park

Missouri River

1st Avenue North

15th Street North

6th Street South

15th Street South

10th Avenue South

6th Street Southwest

I 15;US 89;MT 200

Montana Air National Guard, 120th Airlift Wing

Highland Cemetery

Noise (dBA)
24-hr LAeq

- > 90.0
- 80.0 - 89.9
- 70.0 - 79.9
- 60.0 - 69.9
- 55.0 - 59.9
- 50.0 - 54.9
- 45.0 - 49.9

MapLibre

DOCUMENT 11
SOLE SOURCE AQUIFERS

SOLE SOURCE AQUIFERS

7/24/2025, 3:52:06 PM

Sole_Source_Aquifers

1:4,622,324

0 25 50 100 mi

0 40 80 160 km

Montana State University, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, USFWS

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

REVISION | DATE | REV

DRAWN BY:
DESIGNED BY:
QUALITY CHECK:
DATE:
JOB NO.
FIELDBOOK

24-126 Little Shell Tribe Development
Great Falls, MT

Sole Source Aquifer

FIGURES2.DWG

SHEET

PAGE SETUP 2023_TDH_22X34_AS_11X17_L
PRINTED 2025-07-29, BY RYAN VOSEN, I:\2024\GIF\24-126 LITTLE SHELL TRIBE DEV MASTER\06_CADD\LANDSCAPE\FIGURES\FIGURES2.DWG

DOCUMENT 12
WETLANDS

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, OMAHA DISTRICT
MONTANA REGULATORY OFFICE
100 NEILL AVENUE
HELENA, MONTANA 59601-3329

February 9, 2026

SUBJECT: Little Shell Chippewa Tribe - Housing Development - Great Falls - Cascade County, USACE File No. **NWO-2026-00175-MT**

Peter Klevberg
TD&H Engineering
1800 River Drive North
Great Falls, Montana 59401
Peter.klevberg@tdhengineering.com

Dear Mr. Klevberg:

This letter is in response to correspondence we received requesting comments or permitting information regarding the above-referenced project. Specifically, the project involves the proposed Good Medicine housing project which will be comprised of approximately 41 single-family housing units, 9 duplexes (i.e. 18 housing units), and an apartment complex estimated to contain 46 units. The project is located on or near Sun River, at Latitude 47.5187°, Longitude -111.3414°, in Section 3, Township 20 N, Range 3 E, Cascade County, Montana.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that based on the information provided in your submittal, we are unable to ascertain if regulated activities are proposed or if jurisdictional waters of the U.S. are present within the project area. A Department of the Army (DA) permit may be required for the proposed activity. In lieu of a specific response, please consider the following general information concerning our regulatory program that may apply to the proposed project.

If the proposal involves activity in navigable waters of the United States, it may be subject to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) jurisdiction under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA). Within the state of Montana, portions of the Kootenai River, the Missouri River, and the Yellowstone River[1] are considered a navigable water of the U.S. Section 10 prohibits the construction, excavation, or deposition of materials in, over, or under navigable waters of the United States unless the work has been authorized by a DA permit. Structures or work outside the limits defined for navigable waters of the United States require a Section 10 permit if the structure or work affects the course, location, or condition of the water body. The law

[1] Section 10 waters in Montana are the Kootenai River (from the International Border between the United States and Canada downstream to Jennings Rapids near Jennings, Montana), the Missouri River and its impoundments (from its headwaters near Three Forks to the North Dakota state line), and the Yellowstone River (from Emigrant to the North Dakota state line).

applies to any dredging or disposal of dredged materials, excavation, filling, channelization, or any other modification of a navigable water of the United States, and applies to all structures, from the smallest floating dock to the largest commercial undertaking.

If the proposal involves a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, it may be subject to USACE jurisdiction under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Discharges of fill material generally include, without limitation: placement of fill that is necessary for the construction of any structure, or impoundment requiring rock, sand, dirt, or other material for its construction; site-development fills for recreational, industrial, commercial, residential, and other uses; causeways or road fills; dams and dikes; property protection or reclamation devices such as riprap, weirs, bulkheads, and revetments; levees or berms; fill for intake and outfall pipes and trenched utility lines; fill associated with the creation of ponds; and any other work involving the discharge of fill or dredged material. A DA permit is required whether the work is permanent or temporary. Waters of the U.S. include the area below the ordinary high water mark of stream channels, lakes or ponds connected to the tributary system, and wetlands adjacent to these waters (33 CFR § 328.3). Other waters and wetlands, as well as man-made channels, may be waters of the U.S. in certain circumstances, which must be determined on a case-by-case basis. CWA Section 301(a) prohibits discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States unless the work has been authorized by a Department of the Army permit under Section 404. Information about the USACE permitting process can be obtained online at http://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/RegulatoryProgram/Montana.

The mission of the USACE Regulatory Program is to protect the Nation's aquatic resources while allowing reasonable development through fair, flexible, and balanced permit decisions. Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, we work to protect the biological, physical, and chemical integrity of the Nation's aquatic resources. Projects are evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine the potential benefits and detriments that may occur as a result of the proposal.

Before a permit is issued or verified, USACE must ensure that we've met all our obligations under any related federal and state laws. For all projects, USACE will consult with other state and federal agencies and Native American tribes, as appropriate. USACE evaluation of a Section 10 and/or a Section 404 permit application involves multiple analyses; please see the attached document for additional information and resources for permitting.

Useful documents, links, and information about Jurisdictional Determinations, Pre-Application Meetings, Permit Exemptions, Nationwide Permits, Regional Permits, Individual Permits, and Permit Applications and Permit Resources are available on our webpage: http://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/RegulatoryProgram/Montana.

Prior to applying for a DA permit, the project proposer may request a pre-application consultation meeting with USACE (virtual or in-person, on or off-site) to obtain

information regarding the information needed, alternatives, and options for permitting before an applicant makes irreversible commitments of resources (funds, detailed designs, materials, etc.). A pre-application meeting is strongly recommended if the proposal has substantial impacts to waters of the U.S., or if it is a large, unique, or controversial project.

USACE Section 10/404 permits do not cover other potential authorizations that are often required. Others may include state or local permits such as a 310 Permit, SPA 124 Permit, 318 Authorization or 401 Water Quality Certification, Navigable Rivers Land Use License, or Floodplain Permit. Local and state governments issue permits or other authorizations to ensure compliance with local and state laws and regulations. The USACE permitting program is in place to ensure your project is in compliance with federal laws and regulations.

Note that this letter is not a DA authorization to proceed. It only informs you of the need to obtain a DA permit if waters of the U.S. will be affected. If the final design includes the placement of fill material in any jurisdictional area described above, or otherwise requires authorization by a DA permit, please submit a Montana Joint Permit Application (https://dnrc.mt.gov/Licenses-and-Permits/Stream-Permitting/) to this office prior to starting any work. After a review of the materials submitted, we will determine what type of permit, if any, will be required. If waters of the U.S. will not be affected by a jurisdictional activity a DA permit will not be required for the project.

Please refer to identification number **NWO-2026-00175-MT** in any correspondence concerning this project. If you have any questions, please contact the Montana Regulatory Office by email at Montana.Reg@usace.army.mil, or by telephone at (406) 441-1375.

Sincerely,

Montana
Regulatory Team

Enclosure

The Omaha District, Regulatory Branch is committed to providing quality and timely service to our customers. In an effort to improve customer service, please take a moment to complete our Customer Service Survey found on our website at: https://regulatory.ops.usace.army.mil/customer-service-survey/. Paper copies of the survey are also available upon request for those without Internet access.

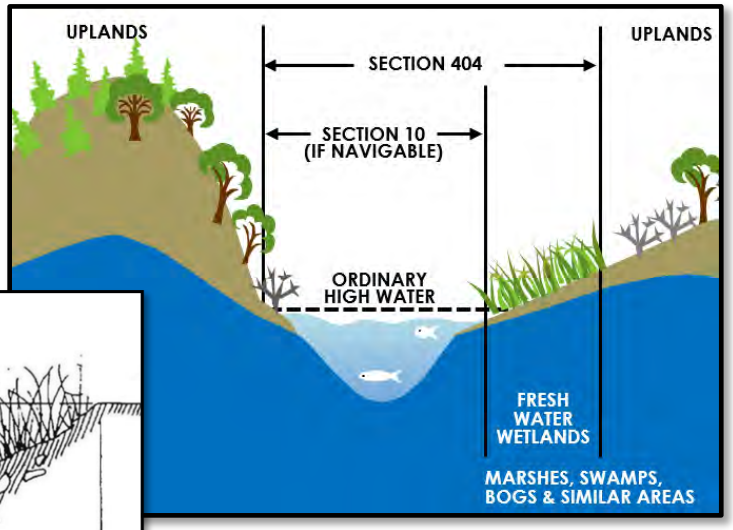
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Omaha District, Montana
Additional Information and Resources for Permitting

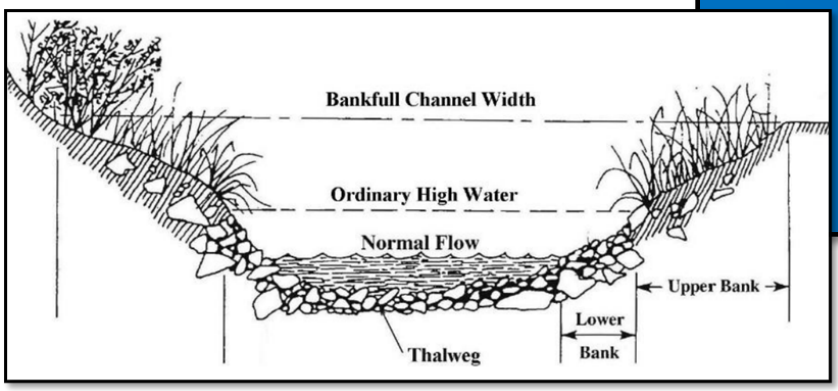
1. Geographic and Activity Jurisdiction: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Regulatory Program, administers and enforces **Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA)** and **Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA).**

Under **Section 10 of the RHA**, a permit is required to do **any work in, over or under** a navigable water of the United States or to do **any work that affects the course, location, or condition** of the waterbody in such a manner as to impact on its navigable capacity. Navigable waters in Montana include the Missouri River, most of the Yellowstone River and a portion of the Kootenai River, their impoundments and side channels.

Under **Section 404 of the CWA**, a permit is required for the **discharge of dredged or fill material** into waters of the United States (WOTUS). WOTUS includes the area below the ordinary high water mark of river and stream channels, lakes or ponds connected to the tributary system, and wetlands adjacent to these waters. Other waters and wetlands, as well as man-made ditches and channels, may be WOTUS in certain circumstances, which must be determined by USACE on a case-by-case basis.

There are some activities that have been determined to be exempt from USACE regulation. For example, discharges resulting from normal farming, silviculture, and ranching activities (plowing, seeding, cultivating, etc.) are generally not subject to regulation under Section 404 of the CWA. To be considered exempt, these activities must occur in the context of established (on-going) farming operations. You should obtain confirmation from USACE to avoid a potential violation of federal law before conducting any discharge you believe is exempt.





2. Pre-Application Meeting: Applicants can request a pre-application consultation or meeting – virtual or in-person, on or off-site. This is an optional step, but helpful in determining the information needed for permitting, additional authorizations that may be needed, alternatives, and options for permitting before an applicant makes irreversible commitments of resources (funds, detailed designs, materials, etc.). Applicants can request Pre-Application meetings through the **Regulatory Request System:** https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs or via email to Montana.Reg@usace.army.mil. Please include information on point of contacts, project location, and preliminary project details.

3. Application Submission: Applicants should submit their application package, including maps, plans and drawings to the **Regulatory Request System:** https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs or via email to Montana.Reg@usace.army.mil. Submit complete, detailed, and thorough information regarding the project. Processing time cannot begin until USACE receives complete application information, including proper drawings. We need to be able to locate the project (detailed location map) and easily determine and verify dimensions and position of the project (site plan and cross section drawings).

4. Aquatic Resource Inventory: The application package must include a delineation of waters of the United States and special aquatic sites, including wetlands or pool and riffle complexes, and other waters, such as lakes, ponds and ditches, and perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams, on the project site. Wetland delineations must be prepared in accordance with the current method required by USACE to include the use of the 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual and appropriate Regional Supplements. USACE can perform the delineation upon request; however, this may take time to schedule due to often high workloads in USACE District Regulatory offices. Therefore, delineations are typically performed by a consultant hired by the property owner and verified by USACE personnel.

5. Project Evaluations & Alternatives: USACE evaluation of a Section 10 and/or a Section 404 permit application involves multiple analyses, including (1) evaluating the proposal's impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (33 CFR part 325), (2) determining whether the proposal is contrary to the public interest (33 CFR § 320.4), and (3) in the case of a Section 404 permit, determining whether the proposal complies with the Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (Guidelines) (40 CFR part 230). If the proposal requires a Section 404 permit application, the Guidelines specifically require that "no discharge of dredged or fill material shall be permitted if there is a practicable alternative to the proposed discharge which would have less adverse impact on the aquatic ecosystem, so long as the alternative does not have other significant adverse environmental consequences" (40 CFR § 230.10(a)). Time and money spent on the proposal prior to applying for a Section 404 permit cannot be factored into USACE's decision whether there is a less damaging practicable alternative to the proposal.

6. Endangered Species and Critical Habitat: The Endangered Species Act requires Federal agencies to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the National Marine Fisheries Service, as appropriate, if an activity that requires Federal authorization (such as a USACE permit) may affect endangered or threatened species or critical habitat. For non-Federal permittees, if any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or is in the vicinity of the activity, or if the activity is located in designated critical habitat, the application must include the name(s) of those endangered or threatened species that might be affected by the proposed activity or utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed activity. The Service has developed an online system that allows users to find information about sensitive resources that may occur within the vicinity of a proposed project. The "Information, Planning and Conservation System," (IPaC), is located at: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/.

7. Historic and Cultural Resources: Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires USACE to take into account the effects that activities authorized by Department of the Army permits are likely to have on historical properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Any structure over fifty years of age is considered historic and is potentially eligible for listing on the NRHP unless it has been previously determined ineligible. State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPO) and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO) are provided the opportunity to review and comment on all individual permit activities and certain general permit activities. For non-Federal permittees, if the activity might have the potential to cause effects to a historic property listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on, the NRHP, the application must state which historic property might have the potential to be affected by the proposed activity or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property. Inquiry with the

Montana SHPO is recommended to determine the presence of any associated historic resources in the area. Contact information can be found at http://mhs.mt.gov/shpo.

8. Water Quality Certification: Section 401 of the Clean Water Act requires any applicant for a permit for an activity that may result in the discharge of a pollutant into WOTUS to obtain a certification that the discharge will comply with applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. Applications for water quality certifications are reviewed by states, Tribes, or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Water quality certifications are required for USACE permits that authorize discharges of dredged or fill materials into WOTUS. Some of the Nationwide Permits (NWP) or Regional General Permits (RGP) have WQC granted for them already; individual permits and other NWP/RGP will require individual certification. Contact our office to determine the appropriate Water Quality Agency for your project.

9. Mitigation: Mitigation consists of avoidance, minimization, and compensation. USACE requires that applicants consider and use all reasonable and practical measures to avoid and minimize impacts to aquatic resources. You are required to submit a mitigation plan/statement with an application if impacts will occur to 0.10 acre of wetlands and/or 0.03 acre of stream.

Compensatory mitigation is the restoration, establishment, enhancement, and in certain circumstances, preservation of aquatic resources to offset unavoidable adverse impacts. Compensatory mitigation is accomplished through purchase of credits from a mitigation bank or in-lieu fee program, or permittee-responsible mitigation. During the application review process, USACE will determine whether compensatory mitigation is necessary and may require the applicant submit a plan for conducting proposed compensatory mitigation.

10. Activities Affecting Structures or Works Built by the United States: If any aspect of your proposed project is located within the vicinity of an existing USACE federally authorized Civil Works project (a "USACE project"), you may be required to seek permission from USACE pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 (Section 408) and/or real estate related permissions. Alterations/modifications to completed USACE projects requires a USACE permission pursuant to Section 408. In addition, real estate permissions may be necessary if the proposed project would affect United States real estate interests managed by USACE. For information on our Section 408 request process or to determine whether a Section 408 or real estate permission is required, please contact: Section408NWO@usace.army.mil

11. United States Coast Guard (USCG): In Montana, the Missouri River, portions of the Kootenai River, and the majority of the Yellowstone River are considered navigable waters of the U.S. as determined by USACE. The state of Montana considers additional waterways to be navigable waterways. The USCG is the agency with the authority to regulate the construction, operation, and maintenance of bridges and causeways in or across navigable waters under Section 9 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Aerial trams and conveyors, aqueducts, utility lines, overhead pipelines, and similar structures that are affixed to a bridge span over waters of the U.S., are themselves considered a bridge structure. If the proposed work involves bridging or crossing of a navigable water the work may be regulated by the USCG.

To determine USCG requirements, please contact:

Commander (dpw)
13th Coast Guard District
915 2nd Avenue, Room 3510
Seattle, WA. 98174-1067
Attn: Waterways Management Branch
(206) 220-7282 | D13-SMB-D13-DPW@uscg.mil

12. Other Federal, State, or Local Permits: A USACE Section 10/404 permit does not cover other potential authorizations that may be required. Others may include state or local permits such as a 310 Permit, SPA 124 Permit, 318 Authorization or 401 Water Quality Certification, Navigable Rivers Land Use License, or Floodplain Permit. Local and state governments issue permits or other authorizations to ensure compliance with local and state laws and regulations. USACE permitting program is in place to ensure your project is in compliance with federal laws and regulations.

See the Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation – Stream Permitting website for details: https://dnrc.mt.gov/Licenses-and-Permits/Stream-Permitting/

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers continues to encourage the public to use the Regulatory Request System (RRS) for an improved permitting experience. RRS provides a straightforward, transparent process for the timely submittal and review of permit requests and other information when requesting permission to dredge, fill or conduct activities in jurisdictional wetlands and waters of the U.S.

RRS users can submit applications for individual standard permits and general permit pre-construction notifications, as well as requests for pre-application meetings, jurisdictional determinations, no permit required reviews, submit comments to public notices, and other information needed during the permit evaluation process using easy-to-follow online submission forms. Applicants can also track the status of their requests using a user-friendly dashboard.

Key benefits include:

- Removing the burden associated with the preparation and mailing of paper applications.
- Automated data validation ensures required fields are completed, leading to more complete and accurate submissions.
- Improved communication through automated emails and a real-time dashboard, reducing unnecessary back-and-forth between regulators and applicants.
- Providing on-line access to all relevant Regulatory information.
- Providing the ability to create a draft request, download it, and share it with your organization and clients, and revisit it later to finish it.
- Reducing internal data entry requirements allowing project managers to focus on permit review.

- RRS also features a Help Desk that is responsive, interactive and can assist with troubleshooting issues – a great resource for new applications.

The Regulatory Request System can be accessed on the web at https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs.

For further details or to provide feedback about the RRS, please contact USACE at rrs@usace.army.mil

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
National Wetlands Inventory

Existing Wetlands Little Shell Tribe Housing

July 22, 2025

Wetlands

- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Other
- Riverine

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)
This page was produced by the NWI mapper

DOCUMENT 13
WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

REV	DATE	REVISION

TD&H Engineering
tdhengineering.com

DRAWN BY:
DESIGNED BY:
QUALITY CHECK:
DATE:
JOB NO.
FIELDBOOK

24-126 Little Shell Tribe Development
Great Falls, MT

Wild and Scenic Rivers

FIGURES2.DWG

SHEET

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

PAGE SETUP 2023_TDH_22X34_AS_11X17_L
PRINTED 2025-07-29, BY RYAN VOSEN, I:\2024\GIF\24-126 LITTLE SHELL TRIBE DEV MASTER\06_CADD\LANDSCAPE\FIGURES\FIGURES2.DWG

DOCUMENT 14

MONTANA CADASTRAL PROPERTY REPORT

Cadastral Property Report

Tax Year: 2025

Scale: 1:6768.97 Basemap: Imagery Hybrid

Summary

Primary Information

Property Category: RP

Subcategory: Non-Qualified Ag

Geocode: 02-3015-03-2-02-15-0000

Assessment Code: 0002397300

Primary Owner:
LITTLE SHELL TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS OF MONTANA
511 CENTRAL AVE W
GREAT FALLS, MT 59404-2848
Note: See Owners section for all owners

Property Address:

Certificate of Survey:

Legal Description: S03, T20 N, R03 E, IN SENW, TRACT 1 COS 3779, MK 2AA

Last Modified: 6/16/2025 5:27:3 AM

General Property Information

Neighborhood: 202.009

Property Type: Vacant Land

Living Units: 0

Levy District: 02-B098-1-B

Zoning:

Ownership: 100

LinkedProperty: No linked properties exist for this property

Exemptions: No exemptions exist for this property

Condo Ownership:
General: 0

Limited: 0

Property Factors

Topography: n/a

Fronting: n/a

Utilities: n/a

Parking Type: n/a

Access: n/a

Parking Quantity: n/a

Location: n/a

Parking Proximity: n/a

Cadastral Property Report

Tax Year: 2025

Land Summary

Land Type:	Acres:	Value:
Grazing	0	0
Fallow	0	0
Irrigated	0	0
Continuous Crop		
Wild Hay	0	0
Farmsite	0	0
ROW	0	0
NonQual Land	18.399	1118
Total Ag Land	18.399	1118
Total Forest Land	0	0
Total Market Land	0	0

Deed Information

Deed Date	Book	Page	Recorded Date	Document Number	Document Type
11/9/2023			11/13/2023	R0450372	Warranty Deed
5/23/2012			5/23/2012	R0253524	Personal Representative or Executor's Deed of Distribution
7/26/2011			5/23/2012	R02397300	Court Decree (Will, Probate, Divorce, Deed of Distribution)
11/14/2002	0000	41012	N/A		
5/18/2000	0334	00673	N/A		
5/18/2000	0334	00674	N/A		

Owners

Party #1

Default Information:	LITTLE SHELL TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS OF MONTANA 511 CENTRAL AVE W GREAT FALLS, MT 59404-2848
Ownership %:	100
Primary Owner:	Yes
Interest Type:	Fee Simple
Last Modified:	12/13/2023 11:10:24 AM

Appraisals

Appraisal History

Tax Year	Land Value	Building Value	Total Value	Method
2025	1118	0	1118	COST
2024	1013	0	1013	COST
2023	1013	0	1013	COST

Cadastral Property Report

Tax Year: 2025

Market Land

No market land exists for this parcel

Dwellings

No dwellings exist for this parcel

Other Buildings

No other buildings exist for this parcel

Commercial

No commercial buildings exist for this parcel

Ag/Forest Land

Ag/Forest Land Item #1

Acre Type: NQ - Non Qualified Ag Land
Class Code: 1701

Irrigation Type: n/a
Timber Zone: n/a

Productivity

Quantity: n/a
Units: Non Qual

Commodity: n/a

Valuation

Acres: 18.399
Value: 1118

Per Acre Value: 60.76

Easements

No easements exist for this parcel

Disclaimer

The Montana State Library (MSL) provides this product/service for informational purposes only. MSL did not produce it for, nor is it suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Data from disparate sources may not be in vertical alignment. Consumers of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the viability of the information for their purposes. The MSL provides these data in good faith and in no event, shall be liable for any incorrect results or analysis, any lost profits and special, indirect or consequential damages to any party, arising out of or in connection with the use or the inability to use the data or the services provided. The MSL makes these data and services available as a convenience to the public, and for no other purpose. The MSL reserves the right to change or revise published data and/or services at any time.

DOCUMENT 15
PHOTOS

APPENDIX O
SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

View north along east side of Stuckey Road

Subject Property Looking northeast toward Hill 57

Subject Property Looking east toward Valley View neighborhood

View N.E. along west side of site. Tribal Ceremonial center at left

ATV path across site with Valley View neighborhood in distance

View north across site with paths worn by motorcycle tires.

APPENDIX O
SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

View E.S.E. across site

View east from east end of subject property

View N.E. from east end of subject property

View N.E. toward Hill 57 from north side of site showing fill pile N.W. of site

View north from west end of site

View northwest from west end of site

APPENDIX O
SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

View N.W. from west end of site showing Stuckey Road businesses.

Stuckey Road, W of Property

View S.W. from west end of site

View S.S.W. from west end of site

View S.S.E. from west end of site

View S.E. from west end of site

APPENDIX O
SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Looking east along former railroad bed and power line along south side of site

Tribal Ceremonial Center

Hill 57 and Soil Stockpile Along West Side of Subject Property

View N.W. from Site

DOCUMENT 16
IICEP LETTERS

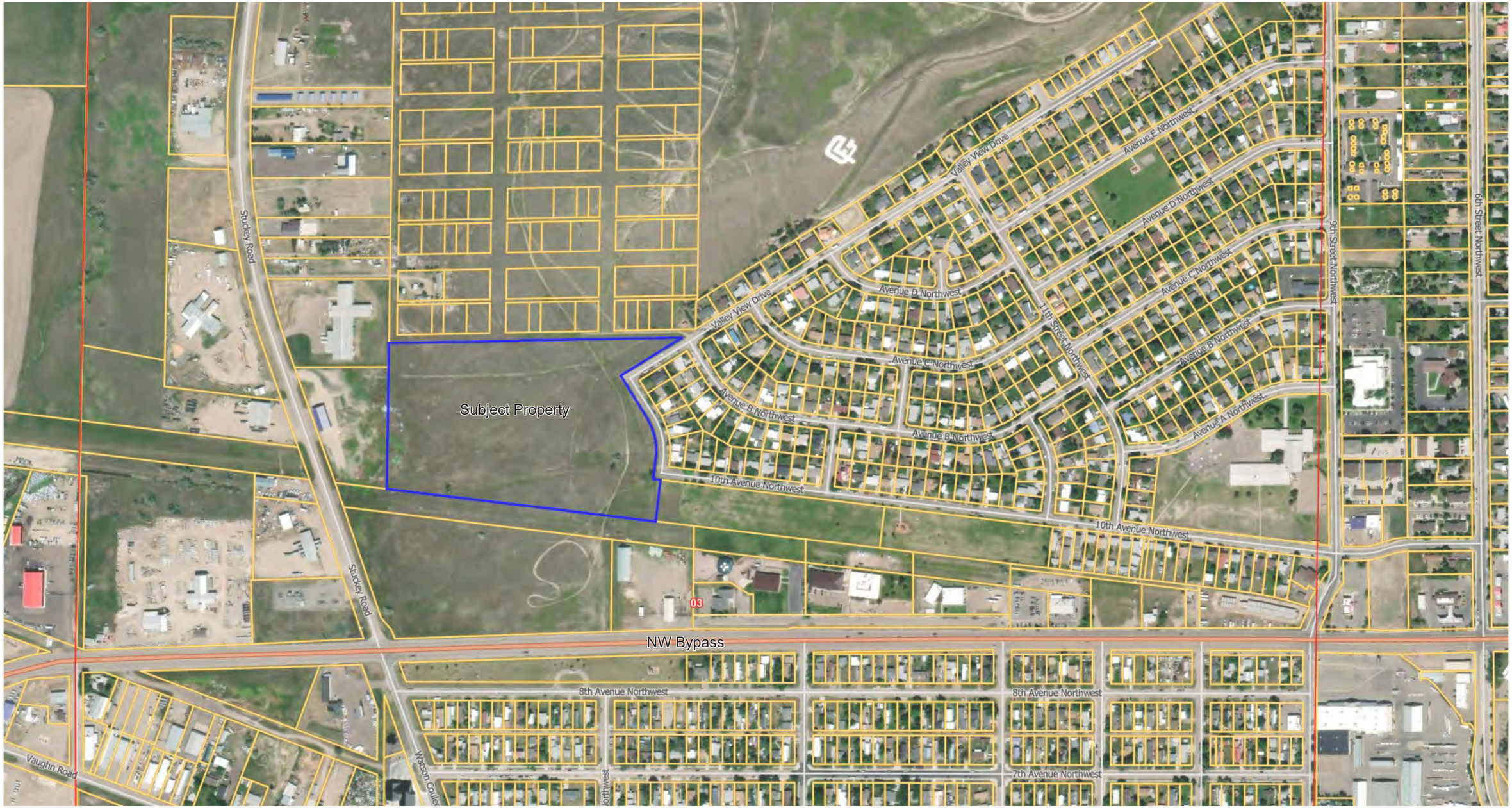


Image Courtesy of Montana Cadastral

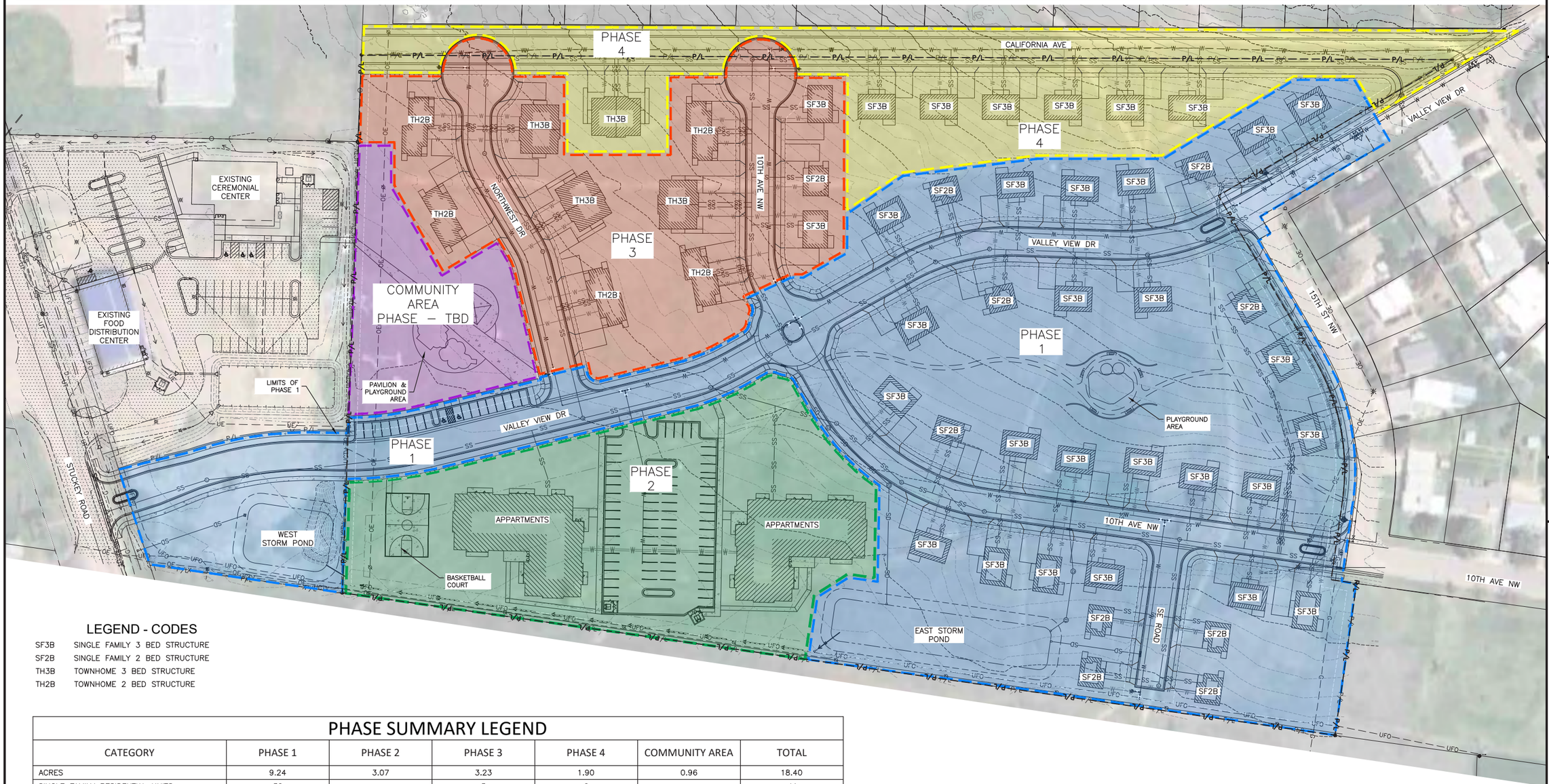
North
Not to Scale

Legal Description: Tract 1 COS 3779, MK 2AA, Section 03, Township 20 North, Range 3 East, Cascade County, MT

Image Courtesy of Montana Cadastral

North
Not to Scale

GOOD MEDICINE PHASING PLAN



LEGEND - CODES

SF3B	SINGLE FAMILY 3 BED STRUCTURE
SF2B	SINGLE FAMILY 2 BED STRUCTURE
TH3B	TOWNHOME 3 BED STRUCTURE
TH2B	TOWNHOME 2 BED STRUCTURE

PHASE SUMMARY LEGEND

CATEGORY	PHASE 1	PHASE 2	PHASE 3	PHASE 4	COMMUNITY AREA	TOTAL
ACRES	9.24	3.07	3.23	1.90	0.96	18.40
SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL UNITS	32		3	6		41
TOWNHOME UNITS (2 UNITS PER BUILDING)			16	2		18
APARTMENT BUILDING UNITS		46				46
ADDITIONAL AMENITIES	STORM PONDS				PAVILION, PLAYGROUND, BASKETBALL COURT, & WALKING PATHS	

NOTE: ACREAGE DOES NOT INCLUDE PORTION OF CEREMONIAL SITE THAT WILL BE AMENDED THROUGH A BOUNDARY LINE ADJUSTMENT AND ADDED TO THE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT SITE.

0 60' 120' 180'
SCALE

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

REV	DATE	REVISION

TD&H Engineering
406.761.3010 • tdhengineering.com
1800 RIVER DR. NO. • GREAT FALLS, MONTANA 59401

DRAWN BY:	CDF
DESIGNED BY:	NCY/JCC
QUALITY CHECK:	
DATE:	12/11/2025
JOB NO.	24-126
FIELDBOOK	

GOOD MEDICINE HOUSING
GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

PHASING PLAN

24-126 PHASING.DWG

SHEET E-5

PAGE SETUP 2023_TDH_22X34_AS_11X17_L
PRINTED 2025-12-12, BY JANA COOPER, I:\2024\GIF\24-126 LITTLE SHELL TRIBE DEV MASTER\06_CADD PH 1\CIVIL\FIGURES\PHASING.DWG

Chairman
Gerald Gray Jr.

1st Vice Chairman
Clarence Sivertsen

2nd Vice Chairman
Leona Kienenberger

Secretary/Treasurer
Colleen Hill

Council Members
Daniel Boyer
Alisa Herodes
Iris Kill Eagle

January 29, 2026

Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana
511 Central Avenue West
Great Falls, MT 59404

Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
Attn: Bobby Komardley
PO Box 1330
Anadarko, OK 73005

Dear Bobby Komardley,

The Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana ("Tribe") is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment ("EA") that evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed Good Medicine Community housing project ("Proposed Project") in northwest Great Falls, Montana.

This EA is being prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") policy and procedures (24 CFR Part 58).

This area of Great Falls, particularly Hill 57 located a half mile to the northeast, was used by the Little Shell people in the early 1900's as a place of residence and has a place-based cultural significance to the Tribe. The Tribe acquired property in this area to develop a housing community for Little Shell tribal members. The Little Shell Tribal Housing Department will assume responsibility for the site under its annual HUD Indian Housing Block Grant funding. The Proposed Project will be comprised of approximately 41 single-family housing units, 9 duplexes (i.e. 18 housing units), and an apartment complex estimated to contain 46 units. The Proposed Project will bring desperately needed housing to the area with a focus on providing Indian preference to Little Shell tribal members. The development will occur in phases as described below.

Phase 1 will involve development of approximately 9.2 acres of the site and include 32 single-family homes and associated infrastructure needed, including extending roadways, sewer, water, electricity, broadband internet, natural gas, roads, sidewalks, and green spaces for the neighborhood.

Phase 2 will involve development of approximately 3 acres, including the apartment complex and associated infrastructure.

Phase 3 will involve development of approximately 3.2 acres of land that includes 3 single-family homes, 8 duplex structures (16 units) and associated infrastructure.

Phase 4 will involve development of approximately 2 acres of land that includes 6 single-family homes and 1 duplex structure (2 units) and associated infrastructure.

There is approximately 1 acre of community area that will include a pavilion, playground and walking paths, it has not been determined in which phase this portion of the project will be completed.

The Little Shell Tribe invites government agency representatives and private citizens to participate in the environmental process. As such, the Tribe would appreciate any information your agency believes would assist the Tribe in this process. To ensure the Tribe has time to address your input prior to preparing the EA for public comment, the Tribe would appreciate your response within three or four weeks of receipt of this letter. The environmental issues analyzed in the EA will be used in the decision-making process by the Little Shell Tribe for determining appropriate actions for the Good Medicine Community development.

Written comments should be addressed to Mr. Peter Klevberg, TD&H Engineering, or e-mailed to Peter.Klevberg@tdhengineering.com. Mr. Klevberg can be reached at (406) 761-3010 if you have any questions or concerns pertaining to this correspondence.

Sincerely,

Gerald Gray
Chairman, Little Shell Tribe

Attachment: Project Map Showing Proposed Action

Chairman
Gerald Gray Jr.

1st Vice Chairman
Clarence Sivertsen

2nd Vice Chairman
Leona Kienenberger

Secretary/Treasurer
Colleen Hill

Council Members
Daniel Boyer
Alisa Herodes
Iris Kill Eagle

January 29, 2026

Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana
511 Central Avenue West
Great Falls, MT 59404

Crow Tribe of Montana
Attn: Aaron Brien
PO Box 159
Crow Agency, MT 59022

Dear Aaron Brien,

The Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana ("Tribe") is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment ("EA") that evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed Good Medicine Community housing project ("Proposed Project") in northwest Great Falls, Montana.

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Phase 1 will involve development of approximately 9.2 acres of the site and include 32 single-family homes and associated infrastructure needed, including extending roadways, sewer, water, electricity, broadband internet, natural gas, roads, sidewalks, and green spaces for the neighborhood.

Phase 2 will involve development of approximately 3 acres, including the apartment complex and associated infrastructure.

Phase 3 will involve development of approximately 3.2 acres of land that includes 3 single-family homes, 8 duplex structures (16 units) and associated infrastructure.

Phase 4 will involve development of approximately 2 acres of land that includes 6 single-family homes and 1 duplex structure (2 units) and associated infrastructure.

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Chairman, Little Shell Tribe

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Chairman
Gerald Gray Jr.

1st Vice Chairman
Clarence Sivertsen

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Leona Kienenberger

Secretary/Treasurer
Colleen Hill

Council Members
Daniel Boyer
Alisa Herodes
Iris Kill Eagle

January 29, 2026

Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana
511 Central Avenue West
Great Falls, MT 59404

Fort Belknap Tribes of the Fort Belknap Reservation
Attn: Michael Blackwolf
656 Agency Main Street
Harlem, MT 59526-9455

Dear Michael Blackwolf,

The Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana ("Tribe") is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment ("EA") that evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed Good Medicine Community housing project ("Proposed Project") in northwest Great Falls, Montana.

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Phase 1 will involve development of approximately 9.2 acres of the site and include 32 single-family homes and associated infrastructure needed, including extending roadways, sewer, water, electricity, broadband internet, natural gas, roads, sidewalks, and green spaces for the neighborhood.

Phase 2 will involve development of approximately 3 acres, including the apartment complex and associated infrastructure.

Phase 3 will involve development of approximately 3.2 acres of land that includes 3 single-family homes, 8 duplex structures (16 units) and associated infrastructure.

Phase 4 will involve development of approximately 2 acres of land that includes 6 single-family homes and 1 duplex structure (2 units) and associated infrastructure.

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Chairman
Gerald Gray Jr.

1st Vice Chairman
Clarence Sivertsen

2nd Vice Chairman
Leona Kienenberger

Secretary/Treasurer
Colleen Hill

Council Members
Daniel Boyer
Alisa Herodes
Iris Kill Eagle

December 17, 2025

Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana
511 Central Avenue West
Great Falls, MT 59404

Cascade County Historical Society
Attn: Christine Morris
422 2nd Street South
Great Falls, MT 59405

Dear Ms. Morris,

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1st Vice Chairman
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Secretary/Treasurer
Colleen Hill

Council Members
Daniel Boyer
Alisa Herodes
Iris Kill Eagle

January 12, 2026

Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana
511 Central Avenue West
Great Falls, MT 59404

Department of Environmental Quality
Attn: Craig Jones
PO Box 200101
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Mr. Jones,

The Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana ("Tribe") is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment ("EA") that evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed Good Medicine Community housing project ("Proposed Project") in northwest Great Falls, Montana.

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Council Members
Daniel Boyer
Alisa Herodes
Iris Kill Eagle

January 12, 2026

Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana
511 Central Avenue West
Great Falls, MT 59404

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
DNRC Headquarters
PO Box 201601
Helena, MT 59620

To whom it may concern,

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Chairman, Little Shell Tribe

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1st Vice Chairman
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Leona Kienenberger

Secretary/Treasurer
Colleen Hill

Council Members
Daniel Boyer
Alisa Herodes
Iris Kill Eagle

January 12, 2026

Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana
511 Central Avenue West
Great Falls, MT 59404

High Plains Conservation District
3615 29th St SW
Great Falls, MT 59404

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1st Vice Chairman
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Daniel Boyer
Alisa Herodes
Iris Kill Eagle

January 12, 2026

Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana
511 Central Avenue West
Great Falls, MT 59404

Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
Attn: Sue Daly
PO Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Ms. Daly,

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Secretary/Treasurer
Colleen Hill

Council Members
Daniel Boyer
Alisa Herodes
Iris Kill Eagle

January 12, 2026

Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana
511 Central Avenue West
Great Falls, MT 59404

Montana Historical Society
State Historic Preservation Office
Attn: Jessica Bush
PO Box 201201
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Ms. Bush,

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Secretary/Treasurer
Colleen Hill

Council Members
Daniel Boyer
Alisa Herodes
Iris Kill Eagle

January 12, 2026

Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana
511 Central Avenue West
Great Falls, MT 59404

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
100 Neill Ave
Helena, MT 59601

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Council Members
Daniel Boyer
Alisa Herodes
Iris Kill Eagle

January 12, 2026

Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana
511 Central Avenue West
Great Falls, MT 59404

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Baucus Federal Bldg
10 W 15th St, Ste 3200
Helena, MT 59626

To Whom It May Concern:

The Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana ("Tribe") is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment ("EA") that evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed Good Medicine Community housing project ("Proposed Project") in northwest Great Falls, Montana.

This EA is being prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") policy and procedures (24 CFR Part 58).

This area of Great Falls, particularly Hill 57 located a half mile to the northeast, was used by the Little Shell people in the early 1900's as a place of residence and has a place-based cultural significance to the Tribe. The Tribe acquired property in this area to develop a housing community for Little Shell tribal members. The Little Shell Tribal Housing Department will assume responsibility for the site under its annual HUD Indian Housing Block Grant funding. The Proposed Project will be comprised of approximately 41 single-family housing units, 9 duplexes (i.e. 18 housing units), and an apartment complex estimated to contain 46 units. The Proposed Project will bring desperately needed housing to the area with a focus on providing Indian preference to Little Shell tribal members. The development will occur in phases as described below.

Phase 1 will involve development of approximately 9.2 acres of the site and include 32 single-family homes and associated infrastructure needed, including extending roadways, sewer, water, electricity, broadband internet, natural gas, roads, sidewalks, and green spaces for the neighborhood.

Phase 2 will involve development of approximately 3 acres, including the apartment complex and associated infrastructure.

Phase 3 will involve development of approximately 3.2 acres of land that includes 3 single-family homes, 8 duplex structures (16 units) and associated infrastructure.

Phase 4 will involve development of approximately 2 acres of land that includes 6 single-family homes and 1 duplex structure (2 units) and associated infrastructure.

There is approximately 1 acre of community area that will include a pavilion, playground and walking paths, it has not been determined in which phase this portion of the project will be completed.

The Little Shell Tribe invites government agency representatives and private citizens to participate in the environmental process. As such, the Tribe would appreciate any information your agency believes would assist the Tribe in this process. To ensure the Tribe has time to address your input prior to preparing the EA for public comment, the Tribe would appreciate your response within three or four weeks of receipt of this letter. The environmental issues analyzed in the EA will be used in the decision-making process by the Little Shell Tribe for determining appropriate actions for the Good Medicine Community development.

Written comments should be addressed to Mr. Peter Klevberg, TD&H Engineering, or e-mailed to Peter.Klevberg@tdhengineering.com. Mr. Klevberg can be reached at (406) 761-3010 if you have any questions or concerns pertaining to this correspondence.

Sincerely,

Gerald Gray
Chairman, Little Shell Tribe

Attachment: Project Map Showing Proposed Action

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, OMAHA DISTRICT
REGULATORY DIVISION
MONTANA REGULATORY BRANCH
100 NEILL AVENUE
HELENA, MONTANA 59601-3329

August 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Initial Project Review; NWO-2026-00175-MT - Little Shell Chippewa Tribe - Housing Development - Great Falls - Cascade County

Peter Klevberg
TD&H Engineering
1800 River Drive North
Great Falls, Montana 59401
peter.klevberg@tdhengineering.com

Dear Mr. Klevberg:

This letter is in response to correspondence we received requesting comments or permitting information regarding the above-referenced project. Specifically, the proposed project will be comprised of up to 65 single-family housing or two-family units, and up to a 50-unit apartment complex. The project is located on or near Sun River, at Latitude 47.5187°, Longitude -111.3414°, in Section 3, Township 20 N, Range 3 E, Cascade County, Montana.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that based on the information provided in your submittal, we are unable to ascertain if regulated activities are proposed or if jurisdictional waters of the U.S. are present within the project area. A Department of the Army (DA) permit may be required for the proposed activity. In lieu of a specific response, please consider the following general information concerning our regulatory program that may apply to the proposed project.

If the proposal involves activity in navigable waters of the United States, it may be subject to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) jurisdiction under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA). Within the state of Montana, portions of the Kootenai River, the Missouri River, and the Yellowstone River[1] are considered a navigable water of the U.S. Section 10 prohibits the construction, excavation, or deposition of materials in, over, or under navigable waters of the United States unless the work has been authorized by a DA permit. Structures or work outside the limits defined for navigable waters of the United States require a Section 10 permit if the structure or work affects the course, location, or condition of the water body. The law applies to any dredging or disposal of dredged materials, excavation, filling,

[1] Section 10 waters in Montana are the Kootenai River (from the International Border between the United States and Canada downstream to Jennings Rapids near Jennings, Montana), the Missouri River and its impoundments (from its headwaters near Three Forks to the North Dakota state line), and the Yellowstone River (from Emigrant to the North Dakota state line).

channelization, or any other modification of a navigable water of the United States, and applies to all structures, from the smallest floating dock to the largest commercial undertaking.

If the proposal involves a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, it may be subject to USACE jurisdiction under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Discharges of fill material generally include, without limitation: placement of fill that is necessary for the construction of any structure, or impoundment requiring rock, sand, dirt, or other material for its construction; site-development fills for recreational, industrial, commercial, residential, and other uses; causeways or road fills; dams and dikes; property protection or reclamation devices such as riprap, weirs, bulkheads, and revetments; levees or berms; fill for intake and outfall pipes and trenched utility lines; fill associated with the creation of ponds; and any other work involving the discharge of fill or dredged material. A DA permit is required whether the work is permanent or temporary. Waters of the U.S. include the area below the ordinary high water mark of stream channels, lakes or ponds connected to the tributary system, and wetlands adjacent to these waters (33 CFR § 328.3). Other waters and wetlands, as well as man-made channels, may be waters of the U.S. in certain circumstances, which must be determined on a case-by-case basis. CWA Section 301(a) prohibits discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States unless the work has been authorized by a Department of the Army permit under Section 404. Information about the USACE permitting process can be obtained online at http://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/RegulatoryProgram/Montana.

The mission of the USACE Regulatory Program is to protect the Nation's aquatic resources while allowing reasonable development through fair, flexible, and balanced permit decisions. Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, we work to protect the biological, physical, and chemical integrity of the Nation's aquatic resources. Projects are evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine the potential benefits and detriments that may occur as a result of the proposal.

Before a permit is issued or verified, USACE must ensure that we've met all our obligations under any related federal and state laws. For all projects, USACE will consult with other state and federal agencies and Native American tribes, as appropriate. USACE evaluation of a Section 10 and/or a Section 404 permit application involves multiple analyses; please see the attached document for additional information and resources for permitting.

Useful documents, links, and information about Jurisdictional Determinations, Pre-Application Meetings, Permit Exemptions, Nationwide Permits, Regional Permits, Individual Permits, and Permit Applications and Permit Resources are available on our webpage: http://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/RegulatoryProgram/Montana.

Prior to applying for a DA permit, the project proposer may request a pre-application consultation meeting with USACE (virtual or in-person, on or off-site) to obtain information regarding the information needed, alternatives, and options for permitting

before an applicant makes irreversible commitments of resources (funds, detailed designs, materials, etc.). A pre-application meeting is strongly recommended if the proposal has substantial impacts to waters of the U.S., or if it is a large, unique, or controversial project.

USACE Section 10/404 permits do not cover other potential authorizations that are often required. Others may include state or local permits such as a 310 Permit, SPA 124 Permit, 318 Authorization or 401 Water Quality Certification, Navigable Rivers Land Use License, or Floodplain Permit. Local and state governments issue permits or other authorizations to ensure compliance with local and state laws and regulations. The USACE permitting program is in place to ensure your project is in compliance with federal laws and regulations.

Note that this letter is not a DA authorization to proceed. It only informs you of the need to obtain a DA permit if waters of the U.S. will be affected. If the final design includes the placement of fill material in any jurisdictional area described above, or otherwise requires authorization by a DA permit, please submit a Montana Joint Permit Application (https://dnrc.mt.gov/Licenses-and-Permits/Stream-Permitting/) to this office prior to starting any work. After a review of the materials submitted, we will determine what type of permit, if any, will be required. If waters of the U.S. will not be affected by a jurisdictional activity a DA permit will not be required for the project.

Please refer to identification number **NWO-2026-00175-MT** in any correspondence concerning this project. If you have any questions, please contact the Montana Regulatory Office by email at Montana.Reg@usace.army.mil, or by telephone at (406) 441-1375.

Sincerely,

Montana Regulatory Team

Enclosure

The Omaha District Regulatory Division is committed to providing quality and timely service to our customers. In an effort to improve customer service, please take a moment to complete our Customer Service Survey found on our website at: https://regulatory.ops.usace.army.mil/customer-service-survey/. Paper copies of the survey are also available upon request for those without Internet access.

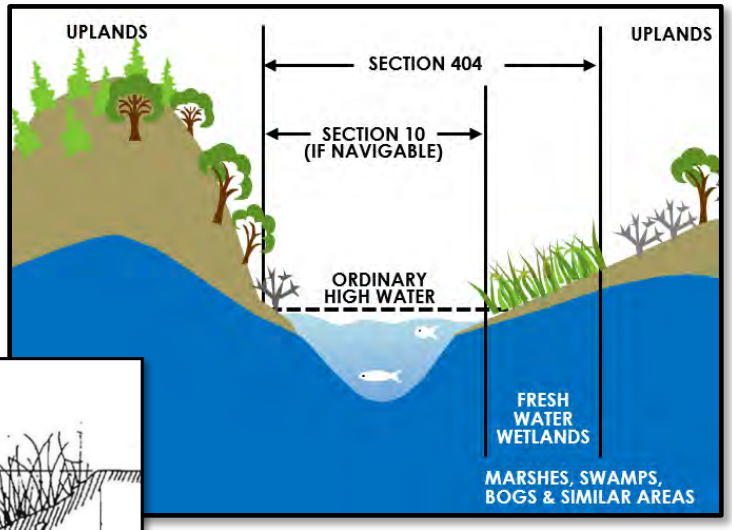
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Omaha District, Montana
Additional Information and Resources for Permitting

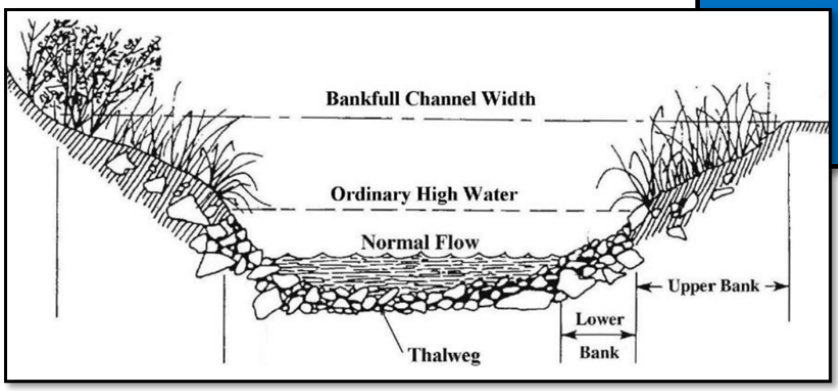
1. Geographic and Activity Jurisdiction: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Regulatory Program, administers and enforces **Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA)** and **Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA).**

Under **Section 10 of the RHA**, a permit is required to do **any work in, over or under** a navigable water of the United States or to do **any work that affects the course, location, or condition** of the waterbody in such a manner as to impact on its navigable capacity. Navigable waters in Montana include the Missouri River, most of the Yellowstone River and a portion of the Kootenai River, their impoundments and side channels.

Under **Section 404 of the CWA**, a permit is required for the **discharge of dredged or fill material** into waters of the United States (WOTUS). WOTUS includes the area below the ordinary high water mark of river and stream channels, lakes or ponds connected to the tributary system, and wetlands adjacent to these waters. Other waters and wetlands, as well as man-made ditches and channels, may be WOTUS in certain circumstances, which must be determined by USACE on a case-by-case basis.

There are some activities that have been determined to be exempt from USACE regulation. For example, discharges resulting from normal farming, silviculture, and ranching activities (plowing, seeding, cultivating, etc.) are generally not subject to regulation under Section 404 of the CWA. To be considered exempt, these activities must occur in the context of established (on-going) farming operations. You should obtain confirmation from USACE to avoid a potential violation of federal law before conducting any discharge you believe is exempt.





2. Pre-Application Meeting: Applicants can request a pre-application consultation or meeting – virtual or in-person, on or off-site. This is an optional step, but helpful in determining the information needed for permitting, additional authorizations that may be needed, alternatives, and options for permitting before an applicant makes irreversible commitments of resources (funds, detailed designs, materials, etc.). Applicants can request Pre-Application meetings through the **Regulatory Request System:** https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs or via email to

Montana.Reg@usace.army.mil. Please include information on points of contact, project location, and preliminary project details.

3. Application Submission: Applicants should submit their application package, including maps, plans and drawings to the **Regulatory Request System:** https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs or via email to Montana.Reg@usace.army.mil. Submit complete, detailed, and thorough information regarding the project. Processing time cannot begin until USACE receives complete application information, including proper drawings. We need to be able to locate the project (detailed location map) and easily determine and verify dimensions and position of the project (site plan and cross section drawings).

4. Aquatic Resource Inventory: The application package must include a delineation of waters of the United States and special aquatic sites, including wetlands or pool and riffle complexes, and other waters, such as lakes, ponds and ditches, and perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams, on the project site. Wetland delineations must be prepared in accordance with the current method required by USACE to include the use of the 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual and appropriate Regional Supplements. USACE can perform the delineation upon request; however, this may take time to schedule due to often high workloads in USACE District Regulatory offices. Therefore, delineations are typically performed by a consultant hired by the property owner and verified by USACE personnel.

5. Project Evaluations & Alternatives: USACE evaluation of a Section 10 and/or a Section 404 permit application involves multiple analyses, including (1) evaluating the proposal's impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (33 CFR part 325), (2) determining whether the proposal is contrary to the public interest (33 CFR § 320.4), and (3) in the case of a Section 404 permit, determining whether the proposal complies with the Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (Guidelines) (40 CFR part 230). If the proposal requires a Section 404 permit application, the Guidelines specifically require that "no discharge of dredged or fill material shall be permitted if there is a practicable alternative to the proposed discharge which would have less adverse impact on the aquatic ecosystem, so long as the alternative does not have other significant adverse environmental consequences" (40 CFR § 230.10(a)). Time and money spent on the proposal prior to applying for a Section 404 permit cannot be factored into USACE's decision whether there is a less damaging practicable alternative to the proposal.

6. Endangered Species and Critical Habitat: The Endangered Species Act requires Federal agencies to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the National Marine Fisheries Service, as appropriate, if an activity that requires Federal authorization (such as a USACE permit) may affect endangered or threatened species or critical habitat. For non-Federal permittees, if any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or is in the vicinity of the activity, or if the activity is located in designated critical habitat, the application must include the name(s) of those endangered or threatened species that might be affected by the proposed activity or utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed activity. The Service has developed an online system that allows users to find information about sensitive resources that may occur within the vicinity of a proposed project. The "Information, Planning and Conservation System," (IPaC), is located at: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/.

7. Historic and Cultural Resources: Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires USACE to take into account the effects that activities authorized by Department of the Army permits are likely to have on historical properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Any structure over fifty years of age is considered historic and is potentially eligible for listing on the NRHP unless it has been previously determined ineligible. State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPO) and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO) are provided the opportunity to review and comment on all individual permit activities and certain general permit activities. For non-Federal permittees, if the activity might have the potential to cause effects to a historic property listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on, the

NRHP, the application must state which historic property might have the potential to be affected by the proposed activity or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property. Inquiry with the Montana SHPO is recommended to determine the presence of any associated historic resources in the area. Contact information can be found at http://mhs.mt.gov/shpo.

8. Water Quality Certification: Section 401 of the Clean Water Act requires any applicant for a permit for an activity that may result in the discharge of a pollutant into WOTUS to obtain a certification that the discharge will comply with applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. Applications for water quality certifications are reviewed by states, Tribes, or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Water quality certifications are required for USACE permits that authorize discharges of dredged or fill materials into WOTUS. Some of the Nationwide Permits (NWP) or Regional General Permits (RGP) have WQC granted for them already; individual permits and other NWP/RGP will require individual certification. Contact our office to determine the appropriate Water Quality Agency for your project.

9. Mitigation: Mitigation consists of avoidance, minimization, and compensation. USACE requires applicants consider and use all reasonable and practical measures to avoid and minimize impacts to aquatic resources. You are required to submit a mitigation plan/statement with an application if impacts occur to 0.10 acre of wetlands and/or 0.03 acre of stream.

Compensatory mitigation is the restoration, establishment, enhancement, and in certain circumstances, preservation of aquatic resources to offset unavoidable adverse impacts. Compensatory mitigation is accomplished through purchase of credits from a mitigation bank or in-lieu fee program, or permittee-responsible mitigation. During the application review process, USACE will determine whether compensatory mitigation is necessary and may require the applicant submit a plan for conducting proposed compensatory mitigation.

10. Activities Affecting Structures or Works Built by the United States: If any aspect of your proposed project is located within the vicinity of an existing USACE federally authorized Civil Works project (a "USACE project"), you may be required to seek permission from USACE pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 (Section 408) and/or real estate related permissions. Alterations/modifications to completed USACE projects require a USACE permission pursuant to Section 408. In addition, real estate permissions may be necessary if the proposed project would affect United States real estate interests managed by USACE. For information on our Section 408 request process or to determine whether a Section 408 or real estate permission is required, please contact: Section408NWO@usace.army.mil

11. United States Coast Guard (USCG): In Montana, the Missouri River, portions of the Kootenai River, and the majority of the Yellowstone River are considered navigable waters of the U.S. as determined by USACE. The state of Montana considers additional waterways to be navigable waterways. The USCG is the agency with the authority to regulate the construction, operation, and maintenance of bridges and causeways in or across navigable waters under Section 9 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Aerial trams and conveyors, aqueducts, utility lines, overhead pipelines, and similar structures that are affixed to a bridge span over waters of the U.S., are themselves considered a bridge structure. If the proposed work involves bridging or crossing of a navigable water the work may be regulated by the USCG.

To determine USCG requirements, please contact:

Commander (dpw)
13th Coast Guard District
915 Second Avenue, Room 3510
Seattle, WA. 98174-1067
Attn: Waterways Management Branch

(206) 220-7282 | D13-SMB-D13-DPW@uscg.mil

12. Other Federal, State, or Local Permits: A USACE Section 10/404 permit does not cover other potential authorizations that may be required. Others may include state or local permits such as a 310 Permit, SPA 124 Permit, 318 Authorization or 401 Water Quality Certification, Navigable Rivers Land Use License, or Floodplain Permit. Local and state governments issue permits or other authorizations to ensure compliance with local and state laws and regulations. USACE permitting program is in place to ensure your project is in compliance with federal laws and regulations.

See the Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation – Stream Permitting website for details: https://dnrc.mt.gov/Licenses-and-Permits/Stream-Permitting/

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers continues to encourage the public to use the Regulatory Request System (RRS) for an improved permitting experience. RRS provides a straightforward, transparent process for the timely submittal and review of permit requests and other information when requesting permission to dredge, fill or conduct activities in jurisdictional wetlands and waters of the U.S.

RRS users can submit applications for individual standard permits and general permit pre-construction notifications, as well as requests for pre-application meetings, jurisdictional determinations, no permit required reviews, submit comments to public notices, and other information needed during the permit evaluation process using easy-to-follow online submission forms. Applicants can also track the status of their requests using a user-friendly dashboard.

Key benefits include:

- Removing the burden associated with the preparation and mailing of paper applications.
- Automated data validation ensures required fields are completed, leading to more complete and accurate submissions.
- Improved communication through automated emails and a real-time dashboard, reducing unnecessary back-and-forth between regulators and applicants.
- Providing on-line access to all relevant Regulatory information.
- Providing the ability to create a draft request, download it, and share it with your organization and clients, and revisit it later to finish it.
- Reducing internal data entry requirements allowing project managers to focus on permit review.

- RRS also features a Help Desk that is responsive, interactive and can assist with troubleshooting issues – a great resource for new applications.

The Regulatory Request System can be accessed on the web at https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs.

For further details or to provide feedback about the RRS, please contact USACE at rrs@usace.army.mil

Peter Klevberg

From: Martin, Jacob <jacob_martin@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2026 11:30 AM
To: Peter Klevberg
Subject: FW: Little Shell-Good Medicie Project
Attachments: 1455_001.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of TD&H. Be sure you know the sender and use caution when clicking on links or attachments.

Hello Peter,

Would you please run this project through our IPaC system? You can upload a shape file or draw a project area and generate a species list. If no federally-listed species appear on that list then you can assume that we have no comments. If you have any questions feel free to reach out direct to me.

Thank you,

Jacob M. (Jake) Martin
Deputy Field Supervisor
Montana Ecological Services Office
585 Shephard Way, Suite 1
Helena, Montana 59601
(406) 430-9007

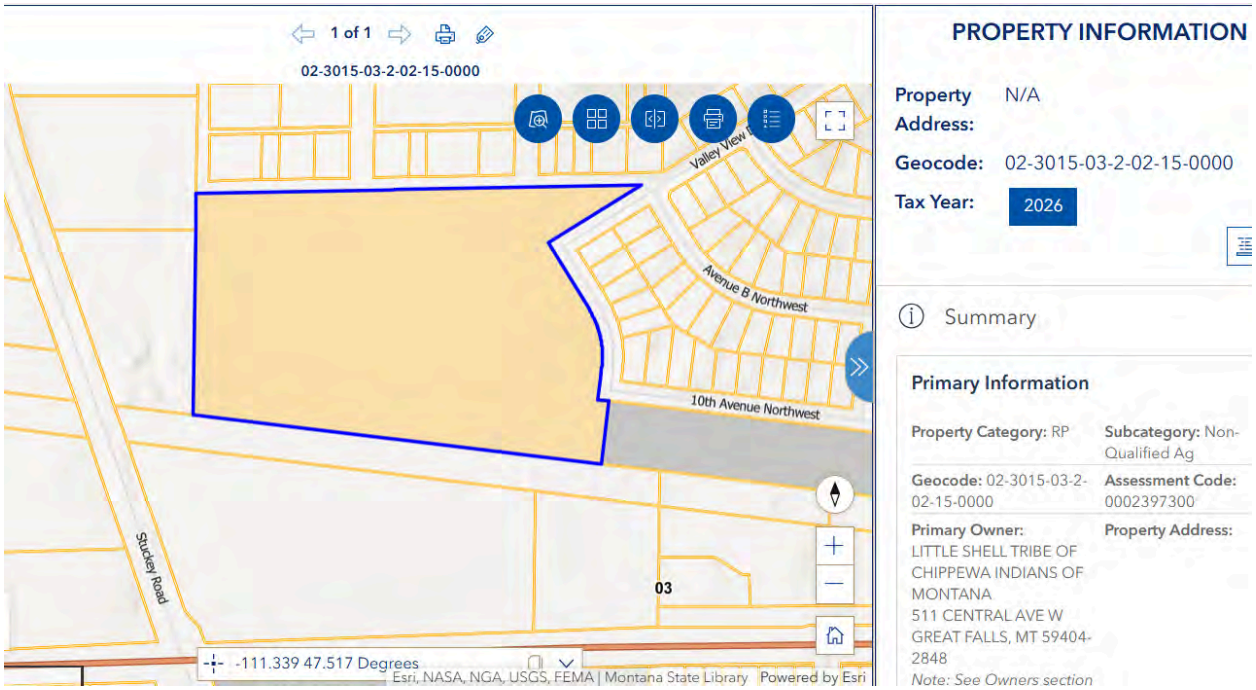
https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/

DOCUMENT 17

GOOD MEDICINE COMMUNITY CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Good Medicine Community Cultural Resource Survey

May 19th 2026



Montana Cadastral Aerial Image Web 06-17-2026: Land Parcel Highlighted In Blue East of Stuckey RD

Duane Reid Cultural Resource Consulting Services LLC

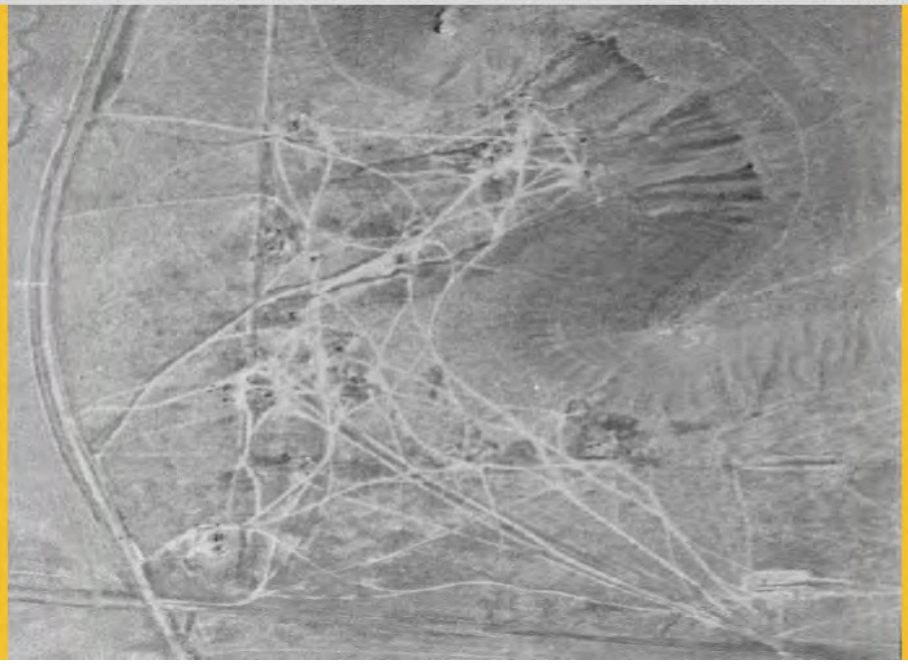
Confidential Tribal Cultural Resource Information: Do not Distribute Without Written Tribal Permission.

Introduction

The Good Medicine community development is a tribal housing development planned for a land parcel owned by the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana, west of the city of Great Falls, Montana, off Stukey Road. (See Map Insert Cover Page) The Good Medicine Community is being designed and engineered by TD&H Engineering, a local development firm located in Great Falls, Montana. TD& H Engineering has developed a phased development plan and produced high-quality CAD blueprints for the housing site.

Background: The Good Medicine Community is planned to be built on a land parcel just south of the traditional, historic Hill 57 Little Shell Tribal community. The land parcel remained undeveloped and had no structures on it in historic times, while the Hill 57 community and Great Falls changed and developed around it. Historic imagery shows that the land parcel contained numerous unofficial, homemade two-track roads and trails connecting it to the local community, which frequently changed over the years. (See Images below)

Hill 57 Little Shell Tribal Community Great Falls Montana 7-10-1946 Aerial Photograph

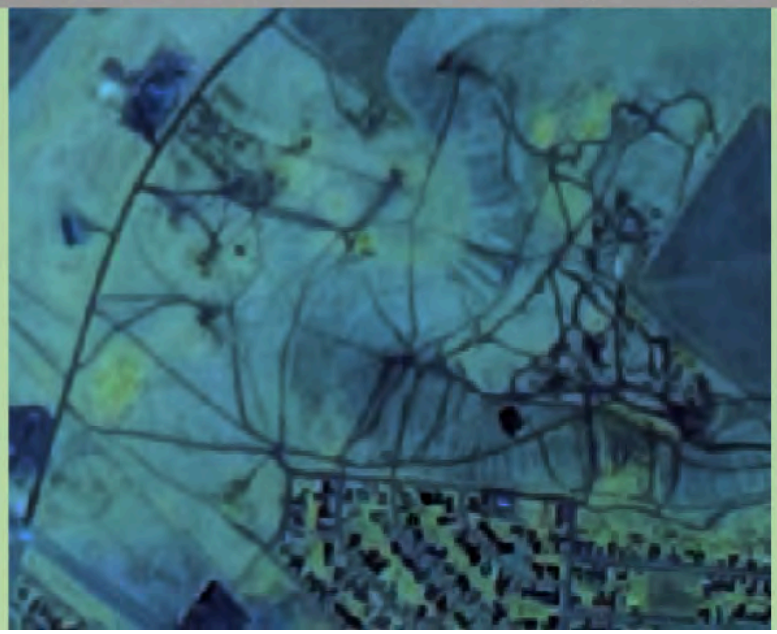


Hill 57 Little Shell Tribal Community Great Falls Montana 9-21-1953

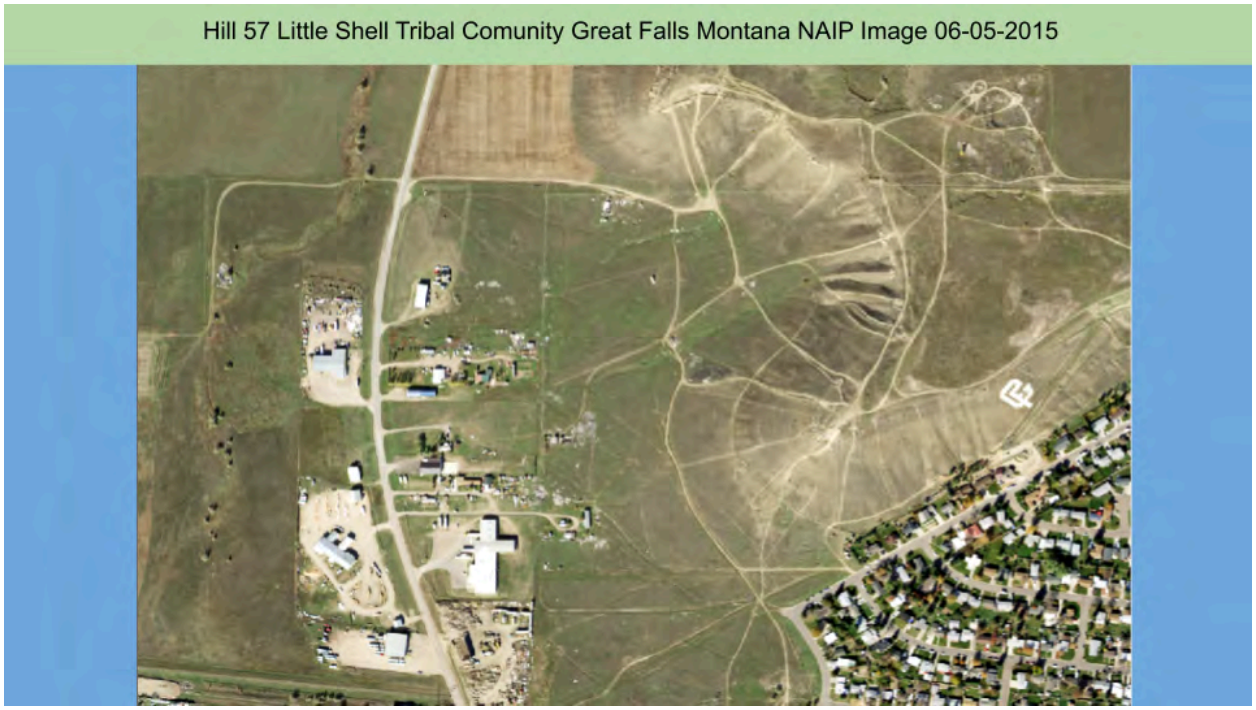
Hill 57 Little Shell Tribal Community Great Falls Montana 09-18-1964

Hill 57 Little Shell Tribal Community Great falls Montana 09-07-1975

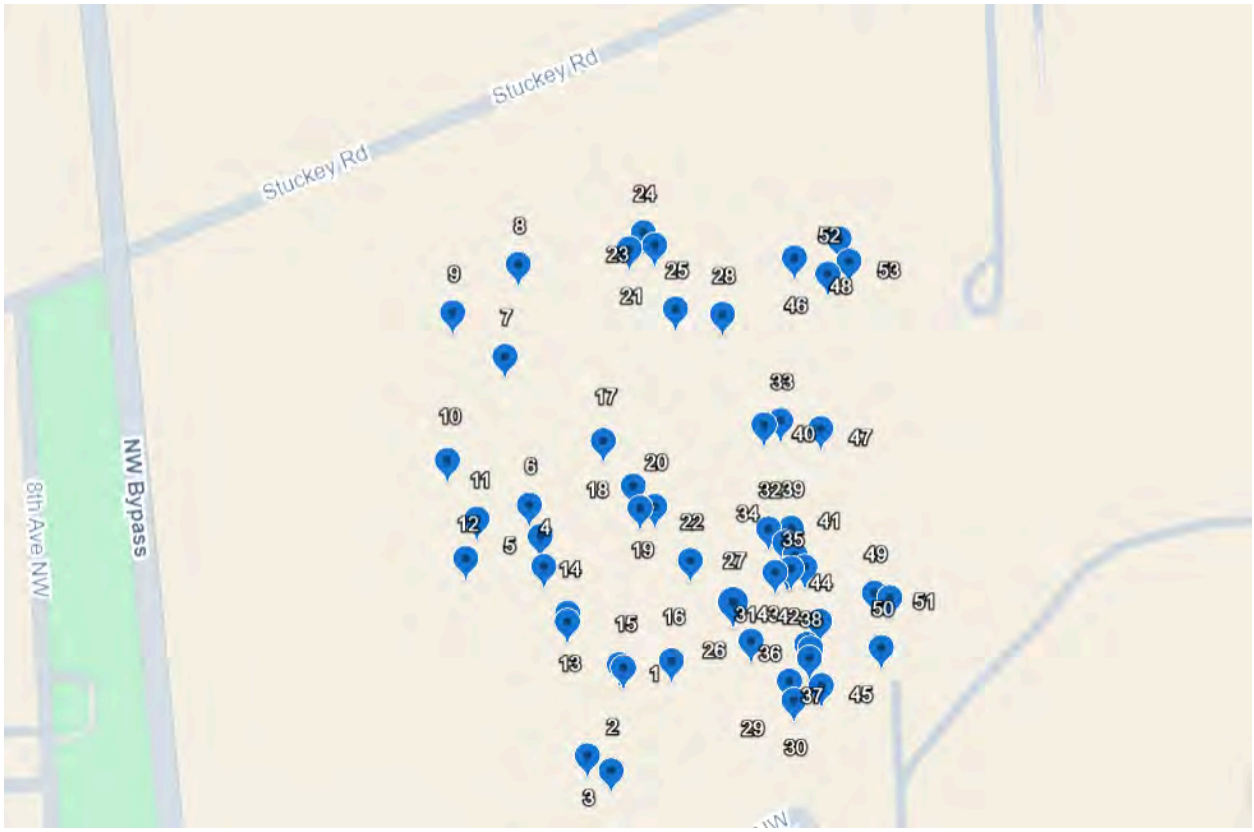
Hill 57 Little Shell Community May 28 1986



Hill 57 Little Shell Tribal Community Great Falls Montana NAIP Image 05-20-2005



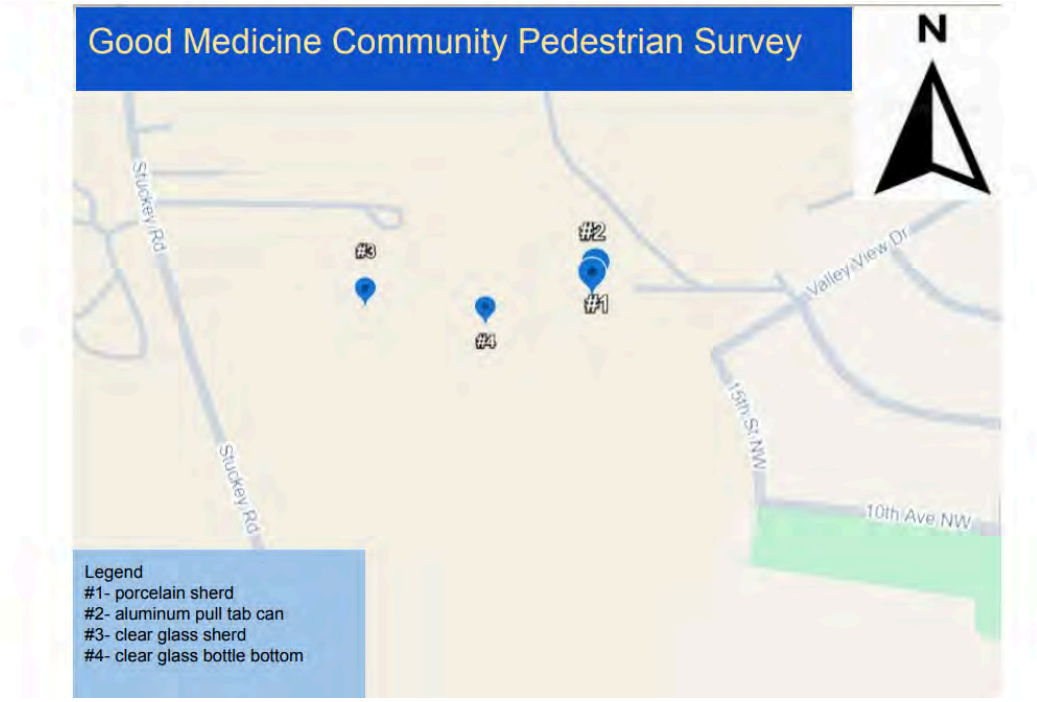
Cultural Resource Survey: Because of the land parcel's proximity to the historic Hill 57 Little Shell Tribal community, the Little Shell Tribal Council chose Duane Reid Cultural Resource Consulting Services to perform a Cultural Resource investigation and pedestrian survey of the land parcel to determine whether any cultural resources could be identified on the property. Duane Reid conducted a pedestrian survey with 3-meter-wide intervals, dropping pins at random locations to display the survey width across the land parcel on May 19th, 2026.



Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI): The survey found no cultural, archaeological, or historic sites within the boundaries of the Good Medicine Community land parcel. There were no stone cairns, lithic flakes or tools, or stone alignment features. There is a "***FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT"*** from the Good Medicine Community project on the land parcel shown in this study. The trees were checked for prayer cloths, Give Away Dance offerings, and other cultural modifications. The survey found several historic artifacts that meet the 50-year criteria for historic artifact isolates but were not close enough or numerous enough to qualify as a historic archaeological site. Because no archeological or cultural sites were identified, there are no National Register-eligible sites to assess the impact of the Good Medicine Community project on.

The survey revealed a landscape with significant disturbance to the topsoil. The area has been used as an illegal dumping ground in recent times. Most of the illegal dumping appears to be construction waste and materials such as concrete, cement, tin panels, shingles, wooden pallets, brush, and other masonry materials. Finally, the area appears to have had topsoil removed from numerous places, leaving noticeable large gouges in the soil.

Survey Map Historic Artifact Locations:



Photographs below, labeled, correlate with the points taken during the survey

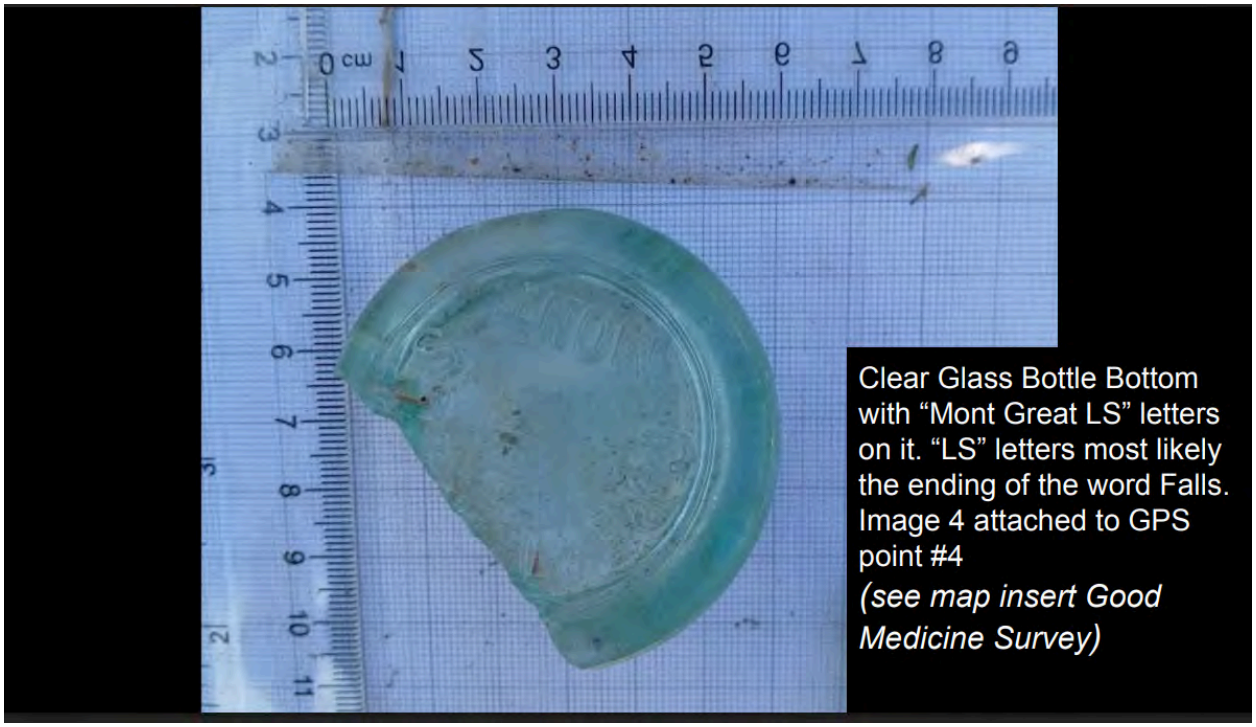
Porcelain Sherd Unique Design No Makers Mark
Image 1a attached to GPS Point # 1 (see map insert Good Medicine Survey)

Porcelain Sherd Reverse Side No Makers Mark Image 1b attached to GPS Point #1 *(see map insert Good Medicine Survey)*

Aluminum Pull Tab Can “Olympia Please Do Not Litter” Stamped into top of the can. Image 2a attached to GPS point # 2 *(see map insert Good Medicine Survey)*

Aluminum Pull Tab Can “Olympia Please Do Not Litter” Stamped into top of the can. Image 2b attached to GPS point # 2 *(see map insert Good Medicine Survey)*

Clear Glass Sherd with “Pepsi C” lettering on it Image 3 attached to GPS Point #3
(see map insert Good Medicine Survey)

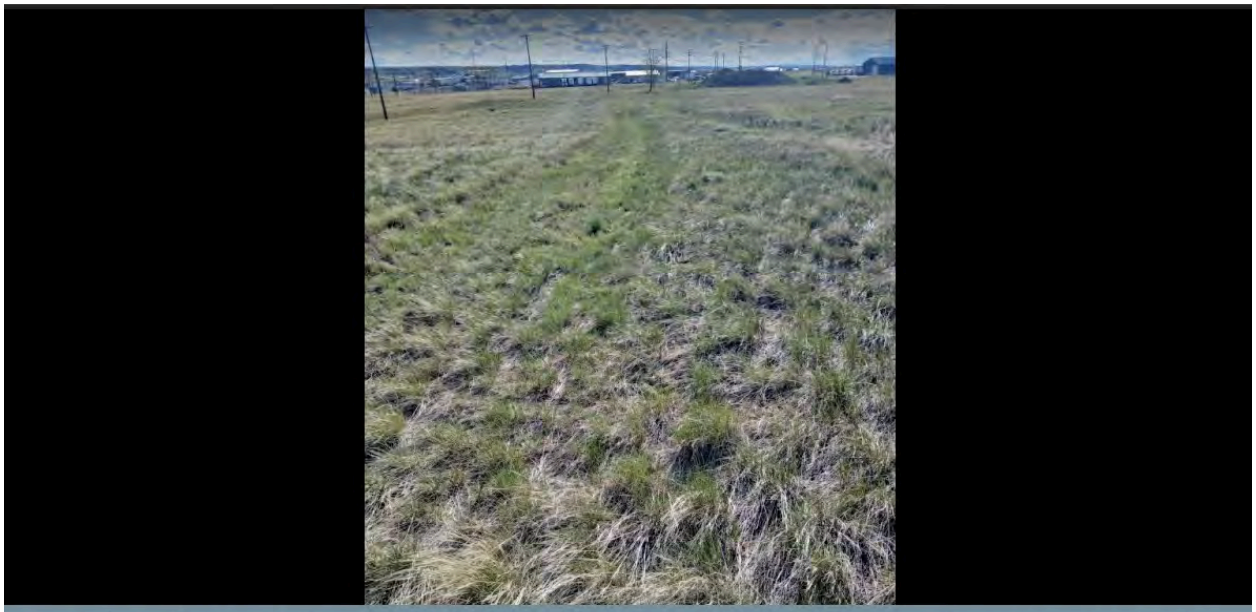


Clear Glass Bottle Bottom with “Mont Great LS” letters on it. “LS” letters most likely the ending of the word Falls. Image 4 attached to GPS point #4
(see map insert Good Medicine Survey)

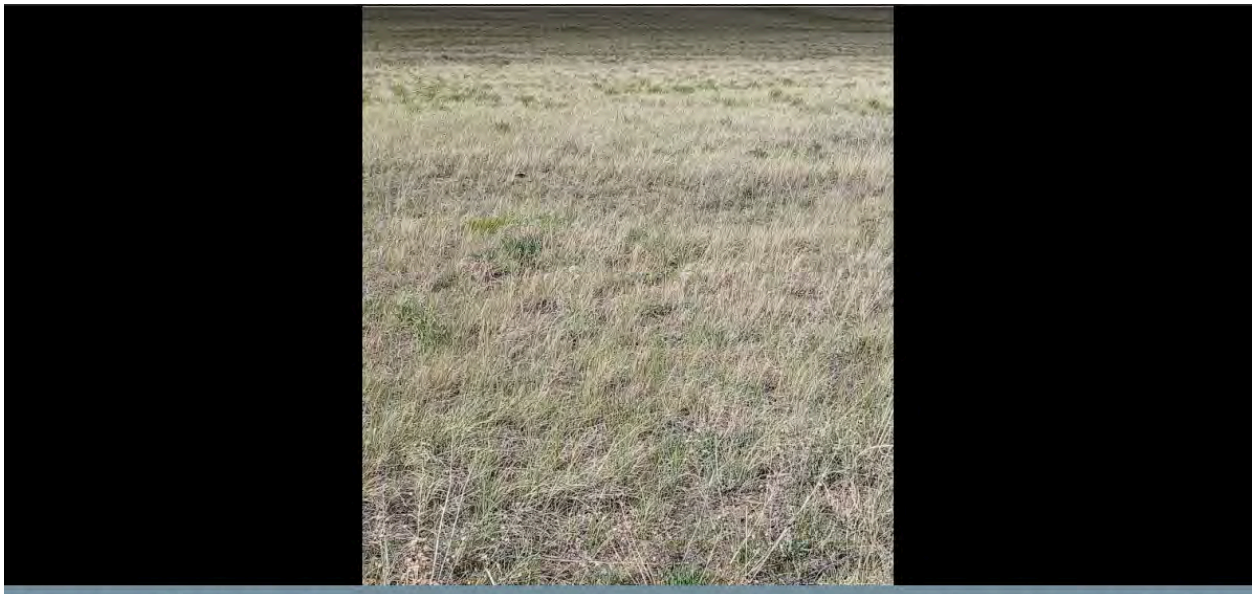
Photographs Below Show Ground Visibility Overview Photos and Associated Trees

Overview Photograph and Ground Visibility. Photo taken from north west corner looking due east. Ground visibility 50% or higher. Vegetation is short prairie grass.

Overview Photograph and Ground Visibility. Photo taken from north east corner looking due west. Ground visibility 50% or higher. Vegetation is short prairie grass.



Overview Photograph and Ground Visibility. Photo taken from south east corner looking due west. Ground visibility 50% or higher. Vegetation is short prairie grass



Overview Photograph and Ground Visibility. Photo taken from south west corner looking due west. Ground visibility 50% or higher. Vegetation is short prairie grass

Work Cited

https://svc.mt.gov/msl/cadastral/

https://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/