



**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR
NORTH CENTRAL MONTANA REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
SEGMENT W4-B1 PIPELINE PROJECT**

TO: ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

Date: August 18, 2016
Action: Water System Improvements Project
Location of Project: Toole and Pondera Counties, Montana
DEQ Funding: \$ 1,730,565
Total Project Cost: \$ 8,472,117

An environmental review has been conducted by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regarding construction of a drinking water transmission pipeline in Toole and Pondera Counties of Montana. The pipeline will be part of the North Central Montana Regional Water System. It will convey water from the city of Shelby's well field to Shelby and eventually to Cut Bank. It will also serve a small area south of the Marias River.

The proposed action consists of the construction of a transmission pipeline of approximately 10.5 miles of primarily PVC pipe ranging in diameter from 12 inches to 24 inches.

The affected environment will generally be a corridor beginning at the City of Shelby near the water tank at the southwest edge of town and going south to the Marias River a distance of approximately 4.8 miles, crossing the Marias River and continuing south and west approximately 3.5 miles. A project map will be available on the DEQ website and is available by contacting the persons listed below.

The DEQ utilized the following references in completing its environmental review of this project: 1) the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System, dated December 2004 (the lead agency for the EA was the United States Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation, also, cooperating agencies in preparation of the EA were: the United States Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs, Montana Department of Environmental Quality and Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation); 2) an Engineering Report for Rocky Boy's/North Central Regional Water System Project, Segment W4-B1 Shelby to Conrad dated June 2016, prepared by Kadrmas Lee & Jackson (KLJ) and Advanced Engineering and Environmental Solutions (AE2S); 3) a Class III Cultural Resources Inventory Report prepared by KLJ, dated May 2016; 4) a Field Wetlands Delineation & Biological Resources Report, Shelby South to Wellfield, prepared by KLJ, dated February 2016; 5) a Wetland Delineation & Biological Resources Report, Wellfield Booster

Station to Interstate 15, dated May 2016; 6) a Potential Contaminant Source Review for Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water Project Shelby to Cut Bank, prepared by DEQ Source Water Protection section, dated August 15, 2016. 7) Project Manual and Project Drawings Segment W4-B1 Shelby to Conrad, prepared by KLJ and AE2S, received June 2016. These references are available for review upon request by contacting:

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Helena, MT 59620-0901
Phone (406) 444-6770
Email: mgolz@mt.gov

Or:

Larry Bonderud
North Central Montana Regional Water Authority
P.O. Box 2456
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Phone: (406) 450-5196

Comments on this finding or on the EA may be submitted to DEQ at the above address. Comments must be postmarked no later than 30 days after the date of publication of this FONSI in the newspaper. After evaluating substantive comments received, DEQ will revise the EA or determine if an EIS is necessary. Otherwise, this finding of no significant impact will stand if no substantive comments are received during the comment period or if substantive comments are received and evaluated and the environmental impacts are still determined to be non-significant.

Signed,



Todd Teegarden, Chief
Technical & Financial Assistance Bureau
c: file

Figure 1. North Central Regional Water Authority Water Transmission Main - Shelby to Conrad

