



**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-25-12
NOVEMBER 17, 2025**

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue a wastewater discharge permit to the facility listed in this notice. This permit is issued by the Department under the authority of 75-5-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA) and the Administrative Rules of Montana 17.30.1001 et seq., Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System (MGWPCS). The Water Protection Bureau has prepared a draft permit for the facility listed below. Copies of the draft permit, fact sheet, and environmental assessment are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau or on the Department's website <https://deq.mt.gov/public/index>

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT:	Anaconda-Deer Lodge County
FACILITY NAME:	Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Wastewater Holding Ponds and IP Beds Facility
FACILITY LOCATION:	Section 29, T5N, R10W, Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Latitude: 46.12924°, Longitude: -112.90081°
RECEIVING WATER:	Outfall 001 – Class I Ground Water
PERMIT NUMBER:	MTX000338

The Department proposes to renew the Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System (MGWPCS) permit, MTX000338, to Anaconda-Deer Lodge County for the operation and maintenance of the existing wastewater treatment and disposal system. This permitting action authorizes discharge of treated wastewater to ground water. The scope of this permitting action is for the operation, and maintenance of the proposed wastewater treatment and disposal system.

The facility consists of headworks with a fine screen for grit and debris removal, two partially aerated lagoons, two holding ponds, five rapid infiltration/percolation (IP) beds, and an effluent irrigation facility. The effluent irrigation facility is not covered under this permit. Wastewater from the City of Anaconda is collected and directed to the facility via an 18-in main. After the headworks, the waste flows into two partially aerated lagoons that provide 30-45 days of retention time and may be operated in series or parallel. The treated effluent then enters two holding ponds: the first is fully lined, and the second has lined sides and unlined bottom. Excess effluent is directed into the second holding pond once

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the first is full. From the second holding pond, the effluent may be infiltrated directly through the pond bottom, distributed to one of the five IP beds, or pumped to the facility's nearby land application site via a 15-inch main. Both the second holding pond and the five IP beds discharge to Class I ground water. These structures are in close proximity to each other and receive treated wastewater from the same collection system. As such, they are designated as a single outfall (Outfall 001) at coordinates: Latitude 46.15806°, Longitude -112.88083°.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited and **must be received by 11:59 p.m. on DECEMBER 18, 2025**. Comments may be directed to the DEQ Water Quality Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. **All comments received or postmarked by 11:59 p.m. on DECEMBER 18, 2025,** will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permit. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail DEQWPBPublicComments@mt.gov

During the public comment period provided by the notice, the Department will accept requests for a public hearing. A request for a public hearing must be in writing and must state the nature of the issue proposed to be raised in the hearing (ARM 17.30.1024).

The Department will respond to all substantive comments and issue a final decision within sixty days of this notice or as soon as possible thereafter. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-5546 or by writing to the aforementioned address. The complete administrative record, including permit application and other pertinent information, is maintained at the Water Protection Bureau office in Helena and is available for review during business hours.

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