Dry-Redwater Regional Authority Board Members

The Dry-Redwater Regional Water Authority (DRWA) is locally owned by the Town of Circle, Town of Jordan, Town of Richey, Dawson Conservation District, Richland Conservation District, McCone Conservation District, Garfield Conservation District, McCone County and Garfield County.

The board members may be contacted for more information..

McCone County

Tod Kasten.....406-485-3588
Henry Helgeson.....406-485-2913
Pat Eggebrecht.....406-525-3525

Garfield County

Mike McKeever.....406-557-2905
Baan Wille.....406-557-2601
Dean Rogge.....406-557-2354

Dawson County

John "Sonny" Whiteman.....406-773-5575
Marco Unruh.....406-773-5640

Richland County

Roger Meyer.....406-774-3322

Contact us at:
Dry-Redwater Regional Water Authority
P.O. Box 276
Circle, MT 59215
Email: drwa@wb.midrivers.com

Use Of Pick Sloan Power

McCone and Garfield Counties were listed as impact Counties when the Fort Peck Dam was constructed and were to receive certain impact mitigation benefit that didn't occur as a result of the Pick-Sloan Act. Power was designated for future irrigation and drainage pumping for the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin program. The Western Area Power Administration should make available, at the firm power rate, the capacity and energy required to meet the pumping and incidental operational requirements of the DRWA System.

As long as the DRWA System operates on a non-profit basis, the portions of the project constructed under this Act shall be eligible to receive firm power from the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin program established by section 9 of the Act of December 22, 1944 (chapter 665; 58 stat. 887), popularly known as the Flood Control Act of 1944.

In addition the DRWA needs should be allowed access to water out of the Dry Arm of the Fort Peck Dam (Example could be access to storage rights held by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers).

YOU CAN'T PUT A PRICE ON GOOD QUALITY WATER

Economical Benefits of a Regional Water System

The DRWA consists of a group of counties and communities, working to bring good quality and quantity of household drinking water to their citizens. The rural residents in the area have some of the lowest income averages and highest poverty rates in the U.S.

Positive benefits of the system

Many positive long term economic impacts will be realized by the agricultural, energy, tourism and recreation industries of the area. The potential for good quality and quantity of water will allow businesses to build and develop - whether it is a grain or cattle processing facility or an energy related facility. The potential for new rural housing developments is increased.

There are a number of landowners in the service area that cannot live on the land or use their water due to poor water quality. This regional rural water system project will allow the rural user to have access to a reliable, safe, high quality water supply.

Eastern Montana has been experiencing economic depression and the economic benefits of construction employment would boost our rural communities immensely.

Improved quality of life, health benefits, fire protection and increased resale value of user's property, (just to name a few) associated with high quality and quantity drinking water.

Dry-Redwater Regional Water Authority

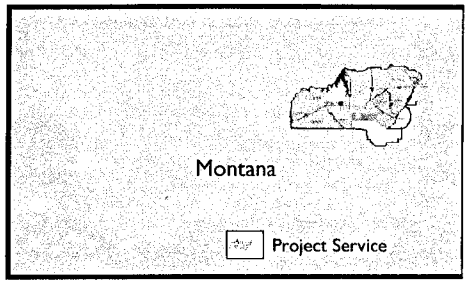
A cooperative effort on the parts of

Garfield, McCone, Richland, & Dawson Conservation Districts,

Garfield & McCone County

Towns of

Circle, Jordan, Richey & Lambert



Committed to providing affordable good quality and quantity household water to communities in the coverage area.

EXHIBIT 8
DATE 1/10/07
HB 11

Table below shows a sampling of water well quality found in the project area along with tables showing the National Drinking Water Standards. One of the wells on that list serves Garfield County School District No.15 and it shows that the sodium level is 447 ppm which exceeds the recommended level of 250 ppm, the fluoride is 3.35 ppm which exceeds the recommended level of 2 ppm and it has 1049 ppm of total dissolved solids which is over twice the recommended level of 500 ppm. This well and the other private wells are not regulated by National Drinking Water Standards but the detrimental effects of the water on their users are not any less because they are not regulated.

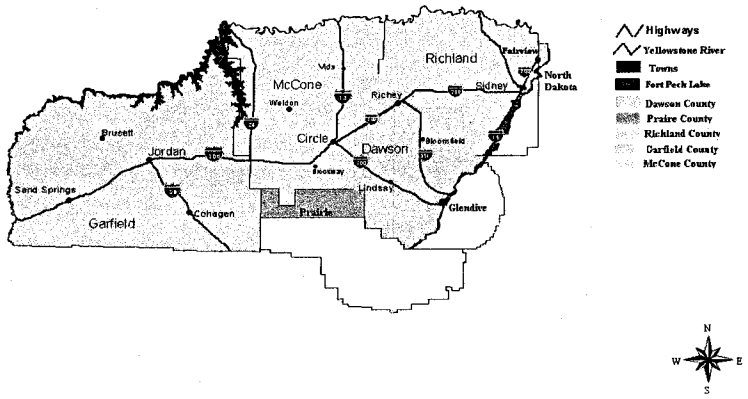
Well Site Name	County	Depth	Sodium	Bicarbonate	Sulfate	Fluoride	TDS
73 RANCH	Garfield	1,003.0	1,524.00	737.00	2,464.00	2.80	4,577.17
JORDON JOHN	Garfield	280.0	667.00	795.00	793.00	1.00	1,885.00
CLAUSON WILLIAM	Garfield	300.0	502.00	812.00	391.00	1.00	1,330.18
73 RANCH	Garfield	1,003.0	1,484.00	656.40	2,346.00	<5.0	4,362.31
GARFIELD CO SCHOOL DIS #15	Garfield	350.0	447.00	912.60	33.80	3.35	1,048.79
BIG DRY SCHOOL HOUSE	Garfield	700.0	625.00	378.20	916.00	<0.5	1,788.81
MCKERLICK JOHN	Garfield	80.0	586.00	700.20	627.80	2.00	1,603.38
BURGESS RANCH	Garfield	365.0	670.00	271.00	681.00	1.00	1,806.43
BAKER JIM	Garfield	390.0	979.00	1,052.00	1,241.00	1.00	2,780.48
HOVERSON SARAH	Garfield	370.0	1,062.00	1,247.00	1,210.00	1.50	2,996.94
HAFLA JOE	Garfield	258.0	544.00	886.00	657.00	0.10	1,733.50
PLUHAR PHILLIP	Garfield	255.0	460.00	688.00	424.00	0.30	1,259.24
KEEBLER DEAN	Garfield	600.0	592.00	618.00	748.00	1.40	1,671.91
LANDERS H	Garfield	380.0	587.00	612.00	764.00	1.10	1,688.92
CITY OF CIRCLE	McCone	1,624.0	412.00	907.70	<25.0	4.31	1,002.02
CITY OF CIRCLE * WELL NO. 1	McCone	150.0	775.00	829.60	1,059.00	2.55	2,317.44
CITY OF CIRCLE	McCone	1,508.0	400.00	921.00	<0.1	5.20	1,004.81
CITY OF CIRCLE	McCone	1,508.0	472.20	886.90	<2.5	5.10	1,109.19
PRAIRIE ELK SCHOOL	McCone	200.0	1,891.00	2,596.00	2,055.00	0.95	5,303.20
DREYER RAY	McCone	189.0	820.00	824.20	1,229.00	0.80	2,537.42
WHITMUS FRANK	McCone	101.0	975.00	1,110.00	1,350.00	1.18	2,964.94
WHITMUS FRANK	McCone	640.0	476.00	1,085.00	3.40	5.50	1,129.85
WHITMUS FRANK	McCone	640.0	473.00	1,088.20	<25.0	5.96	1,123.78
WHITMUS FRANK	McCone	640.0	456.00	1,003.50	<2.5	6.67	1,101.34
WHITMUS FRANK	McCone	101.0	426.00	1,043.10	7.40	0.06	1,049.21
WALLER G.	McCone	240.0	520.00	1,000.40	837.70	0.10	2,044.70
MERRY HERSCHEL	McCone	260.0	700.00	683.20	887.80	2.70	1,967.40
KJELGAARD HAROLD	McCone	220.0	1,340.00	1,964.00	1,345.00	1.90	3,701.16
FLATTEN CLINTON	McCone	175.0	736.00	1,160.00	660.00	4.07	2,033.71
WAGNER R.	McCone	85.0	92.00	494.80	667.20	0.10	1,405.10
UNKNOWN – 10 MI S PRAIRIE ELK	McCone	?	4,400.00	488.00	5,000.00	NR	13,717.39
ZAHN DONALD	McCone	49.9	532.50	784.70	2,125.80	0.20	3,604.34
UNKNOWN - 19.4 MI SW WELDON	McCone	?	2,300.00	295.00	3,700.00	NR	8,128.32
PAWLOWSKI W.	McCone	37.4	193.00	448.40	522.20	0.40	1,107.56
SEXTON WALLACE	McCone	75.0	1,015.00	493.00	4,830.00	1.12	7,144.25
MUELLER ARNOLD	McCone	203.0	626.00	1,251.00	205.00	5.20	1,527.93

Meets Standards

Exceeds Standards

Water Quality of a Small Sampling of Wells Currently Being Used in McCone & Garfield Counties

Proposed Dry Redwater Rural Water Project



The proposed area includes all area in McCone and Garfield, Northern part of Prairie County, Dawson, Richland and McKenzie Co (East Fairview) west of the Yellowstone River.

The rural residents in the proposed project area currently obtain their water, in the majority of instances, from private wells. Some rural residents are hauling water either because their well water is undrinkable or there is not a sufficient quantity to be used. Many rural residents do report water quality and/or quantity problems.

Three communities must treat their water because of high levels of fluoride which is a health hazard and a regulated contaminant. The fourth community – Jordan – does not treat its water but it is high in sodium and total dissolved solids (TDS) which are not currently regulated, but has detrimental effects on those drinking it.

The results of the feasibility study completed in June 2006, indicate that building a rural water system is physically and financially feasible based upon the standards used for any potential rural water system in the U.S.

This is based upon the standard assumptions that the Federal Government will pay 75% and the State of Montana 12.5% of the total construction costs. About 12.5% of the construction costs will be borne by the users.

Currently, approximately $22,000.00 has been collected toward the construction phase through Good Intention Fees from rural users in the project area. Monthly rates will be approximately $30.00-$60.00 (depending on water usage.)

At this time, over 2600 potential hookups have indicated interest.