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Montana Department of  
**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL  
POLICY OFFICE

Steve Bullock, Governor  
Tracy Stone-Manning, Director

P. O. Box 200901 Helena, MT 59620-0901 (406) 444-2544 Website: [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov)

**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-13-21**  
**August 5, 2013**

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue wastewater discharge permits to the facilities listed in this notice. These permits are issued by the Department under the authority of 75-5-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA); the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.30.1301 *et seq.*, Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES); ARM 17.30.1001 *et seq.*, Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System (MGWPCS); and Sections 402 and 303 of the Federal Clean Water Act. The Water Protection Bureau has prepared draft permits for the facilities listed below. Copies of the draft permits, statements of basis, and environmental assessments are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau or on the Department's website [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov).

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: M & K Oil Company, Inc.  
PO Box 3470  
Gillette, WY 82717-3470

FACILITY NAME: Wright Creek Water Disposal Facility

FACILITY LOCATION: 45°10'0" N, 105°14'0"W  
Powder River County

RECEIVING WATER: Outfall 001: holding reservoir located in an unnamed  
ephemeral tributary to Belle Creek.

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0030392

DEQ is proposing to renew the MPDES wastewater discharge permit for M&K Oil Co, Inc. – Wright Creek Water Disposal Facility (MT0030392). The previous permit was issued in 1998, and has been administratively extended by DEQ since it expired June 30, 2003.

The Wright Creek Water Disposal Facility treats produced water from oil and gas production through a series of settling tanks and skim ponds prior to disposal into a holding reservoir. The holding reservoir is part of an ephemeral drainage to Belle Creek. Discharge of treated produced water into the reservoir is considered beneficial use for watering cattle and wildlife.

This permit renewal proposes new limits and increased monitoring. A compliance schedule is included to allow M&K Oil Co., Inc. time to meet the new water quality-based effluent limits.

On September 21, 2000, a U.S. District Judge issued an order stating that until all necessary total maximum daily loads under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act are established for a particular water quality limited segment, the State is not to issue any new permits or increase permitted discharges under the MPDES program. The order was issued in the lawsuit Friends of the Wild Swan v. U.S. EPA, et al., CA 97-35-M-DWM, District of Montana, Missoula Division. The DEQ finds that the issuance of this proposed permit does not conflict with the order because the proposed permit authorizes no new or expanded discharge and complies with all state nondegradation requirements and the Molloy decision.

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT NAME: Ramshorn View Estates Subdivision HOA  
PO Box 161164  
Big Sky, MT 59716

FACILITY NAME: Ramshorn View Estates Subdivision Facility

FACILITY LOCATION: Ramshorn View Estates Subdivision  
Big Sky, MT 59716  
Gallatin County

RECEIVING WATER: Outfall 001: Class I Ground Water  
Outfall 002: Class I Ground Water

PERMIT NUMBER: MTX000103

This is a renewal of an existing permit for the Ramshorn View Estates Subdivision Facility. There are multiple wastewater discharge sources within the Ramshorn View Estates Subdivision. The permitted facility consists of two (2) separate wastewater treatment systems, Community System #1 (CS-1) and Community System #2 (CS-2).

CS-1 is located in the northern half of the subdivision and serves 38 residential lots and one (1) commercial lot; a church has been built on the commercial lot. Each individual lot has its own septic tank (1,500 gallon) with an effluent filter. Raw sewage enters the septic tanks where primary treatment (settling) occurs. The effluent from the septic tanks gravity feeds into an 8-inch diameter sewer main for collection at a lift station. From the lift station, the effluent is pumped into a series of two (2) recirculation tanks with a combined capacity of about 25,000 gallons. The effluent is then pumped from the recirculation tanks into a recirculating sand filter (RSF). After treatment in the RSF, the effluent is either returned to the recirculation tanks for additional treatment or directed into a 4,000 gallon dose tank for subsequent discharge. The effluent is pressure-dosed into a subsurface drainfield (Outfall 001). This drainfield discharges into Class I ground water.

CS-2 is located in the south-central portion of the subdivision and serves 26 residential lots. Each individual lot has its own septic tank (1,500 gallon) with an effluent filter. Raw sewage enters the septic tanks where primary treatment (settling) occurs. The effluent from the septic tanks gravity feeds into an 8-inch diameter sewer main for collection at a lift station. From the lift station, the effluent is pumped into a series of four (4) recirculation tanks with a combined capacity of about 14,000 gallons. The effluent is then pumped from the recirculation tanks into a RSF. After treatment in the RSF, the effluent is either returned to the recirculation tanks for additional treatment or directed into a 3,400 gallon dose tank for subsequent discharge. The effluent is pressure-dosed into a subsurface drainfield (Outfall 002). This drainfield discharges into Class I ground water.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS September 5, 2013. Comments may be directed to the DEQ Permitting & Compliance Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. All comments received or postmarked PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS September 5, 2013 will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permits. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail David Dunbar or Barb Sharpe at [WPBPublicNotices@mt.gov](mailto:WPBPublicNotices@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 17.30.1373 and 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) 444-3080 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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