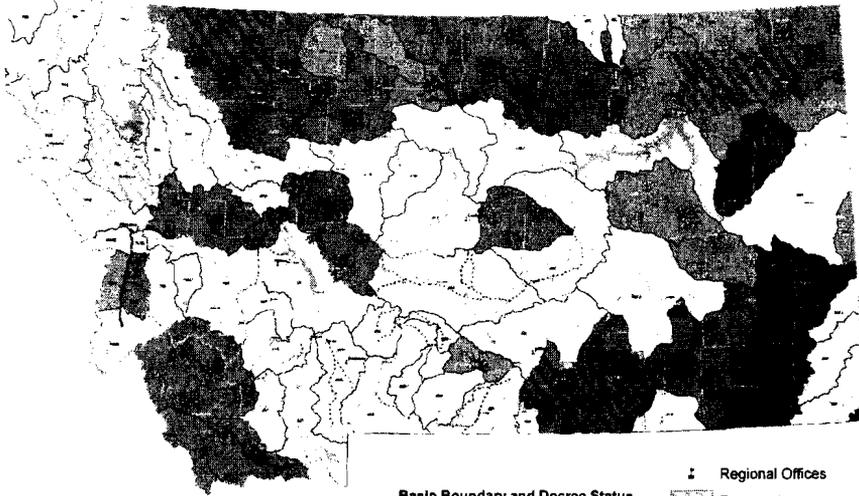


Basin Location & Adjudication
Status Map 10/07/2005



Basin Boundary and Decree Status

- Current
- Temporary Decree
- Not Yet Examined
- Preliminary Decree
- Final Decree

- Regional Offices
- Reservations
- Counties
- Enforcement Actions
- Rivers



New Appropriations of Water

The Montana Water Use Act of 1973 established a permit system for new uses of water. Any person planning a new or expanded development for a beneficial use of water from SURFACE WATER or ground water after June 30, 1973, must obtain a Permit to APPROPRIATE Water or file a Notice of Completion of Ground Water Development to get a Certificate of Water Right. The permit system is administered by the DNRC. Beneficial uses of water include domestic, stock, irrigation, lawn and garden, mining, municipal, industrial, commercial, agricultural spraying, fisheries, wildlife, and recreation.

There are basins and subbasins in Montana that have been “closed” to new appropriations because they have been deemed to be highly appropriated. There are some exceptions to these closures. The basin closure requirements are discussed on page 36.