

**DNRC REPORT TO WPIC
ADJUDICATION
PROGRESS
August 31, 2020**

Claims Reexamination Progress

- First benchmark 10,000 claims by 6-30-2017 (*First Benchmark met*)
- Second benchmark 30,000 claims by 6-30-2019 (*Second Benchmark met*)
- Third benchmark 60,000 claims by 6-30-2021
- Fourth benchmark 90,000 claims by 6-30-2023

Reexamination Claims Delivered in Summary Reports to Water Court

Total = 52,235

Reexamination Summary Reports Delivered to Water Court

Delivery Date

Flint Creek (76GJ)	10/30/2015
Clarks Fork Yellowstone River (43D)	5/24/2016
Musselshell River, Below Roundup (40C)	6/9/2016
Musselshell River, above Roundup (40A)	1/12/2017
Frenchman Creek (40L)	5/31/2017
Jefferson River (41G)	7/27/2017
Willow Creek (41N)	10/6/2017
Rock Creek (76E)	1/23/2018
Gallatin River (41H)	1/23/2018
Yellowstone River, above & including Bridger Creek (43B)	4/26/2018
Shields River (43A)	6/15/2018
Beaver Creek, Tributary to Little Missouri River (39G)	11/30/2018
Boxelder Creek (39E)	8/1/2018
Little Beaver Creek (39FJ)	8/15/2018
Flathead River South Fork (76J)	8/28/2018
Whitewater Creek (40K)	11/26/2018
Little Missouri River, Above Little Beaver Creek (39F)	12/5/2018
Rock Creek, Tributary of Milk River (40N)	1/24/2020
Big Sandy Creek (40H) Interlocutory	1/24/2020
Big Dry Creek (40D)	7/27/2020
Sun River (41K) To Court	9/7/2020
Missouri River, Between Musselshell River and Fort Peck Dam (40E)	9/7/2020
Poplar River (40Q)	September 2020
Big Muddy Creek (40R)	September 2020

Reexamination Decrees Issued by Water Court

Date Issued

Number of Claims

Flint Creek (76GJ)	5/19/2016	1,129
Clarks Fork Yellowstone River (43D)	4/7/2017	2,888
Musselshell River, Below Roundup (40C)	6/7/2017	3,951
Musselshell River, above Roundup (40A)	6/7/2017	6,108

Willow Creek (41N)	3/29/2018	1,457
Frenchman Creek (40L)	10/26/2017	424
Jefferson River (41G)	2/15/2018	2,647
Rock Creek, Tributary to Clark Fork River (76E)	5/10/2018	733
Gallatin River (41H)	10/11/2018	6270
Little Beaver Creek (39FJ)	11/01/2018	994
Flathead River South Fork (76J)	11/29/2018	31
Beaver Creek, Tributary to Little Missouri River (39G)	12/19/2018	722
Shields River (43A)	2/14/2019	3,301
Whitewater Creek (40K)	3/7/2019	3,969
Sage Creek (40G)	4/11/2019	970
Yellowstone River, Above and Including Bridger Creek (43B)	5/9/2019	5,117
Little Missouri River, Above Little Beaver Creek (39F)	5/23/2019	3,015
Box Elder Creek (39E)	2/5/2020	2,669
Rock Creek, Tributary of Milk River (40N)	6/17/2020	1,839
Big Sandy Creek (40H) Interlocutory	6/17/2020	34
Big Dry Creek (40D)	8/19/2020	3,258

Assistance to District Courts for Enforcement of Water Court Decrees

Water distribution enforcement projects total 64. Active projects are 46 with 4 new in 2020:

Flatwillow Creek in Basin 40B;

South Fork Sun River in Basin 41K;

Big Bear Creek in basin 41H; and

Big Elk Creek in Basin 40A.

Post Decree Assistance (FY2020)

Case Type	Case Count	Work hours
Certified Case	2	2.75
Case with Objector	5	322.50
85-2-248 Order	22	1605.75
General Assistance	1	333.0
Total Hours		2,264.00

Exempt Claim Fillings under SB355 (filing period Oct 1, 2013 - May 7,2017)

The DNRC received 2,537 statements of claims including 390 for domestic wells and 2,147 for livestock drinking from groundwater sources or directly from surface water streams and lakes.

Exempt Claim Filings under HB110 (filing period May 7, 2017 – June 30, 2019)

The DNRC received 25,211 HB110 claims. The department has completed initial data entry for 21,522 of these claims. As of August 31, 2020 only 3,166 claims require further entry of initial data to be accessed through the Water Right Query System used by the public to research water right information. This data entry is a high priority for the Adjudication Bureau.

From July 1st, 2019 through April 30, 2020 DNRC Adjudication Bureau staff have worked for 17,374.75 hours on HB110 claims. This work includes data entry, claim examination and claimant contact to resolve questions about these claims.

HB110 Claim examination progress:

Examination Complete and Basin Summary Report in Review:
Kootenai River (76D)

HB110 Claim Examination and Claimant Contact in Progress:
Missouri River, Above Holter Dam (41I)
Sweet Grass Creek (43BV)
Missouri River, From Sun to Marias Rivers (41Q)
Tongue River, Above and Including Hanging Woman Creek (42B)
Pryor Creek (43E)
Yellowstone River, Between Tongue and Powder Rivers (42K)
Judith River (41S)