

3/8/2024 Court Punchlist Summary (Most Recent)

This is a high-level summary of the documented list of requests by the Water Court for the WRIS & enhancements provided by the DNRC. This report is sent to the Water Court every other Friday since 4/28/2023.

Status: In progress/actively worked on

All these requests are budgeted for and are contracted with RESPEC or can be fixed internally. The timelines identified below are the DNRC’s best estimate of delivery based on timely and responsive participation by the Water Court staff in development.

1. Make Final Decree versions of 40H water rights in database accessible.

Previous Discussion:

- Short term: The new WRQS is deployed, the next phase of development will include viewable abstracts for all public versions. In the meantime, final Decrees versions will continue to be available as scanned documents on the WRQS.
- Long term: With the upgrade to the WRQS, Final Decrees will be available outside of scanned documents, and part of the tracking of versions of the water right.

Timeline for completion:

- Versions table is live in WRQS. For Final Decree versions abstract, we will need reports above to be complete. More updates to come on this.

2. Misc. Reports -Susan with RESPEC is reviewing the list and will be in contact with Sara to schedule story sessions to start this work using funds earmarked by DNRC Director’s Office.

The Water Court can either have reports that vary in composition, formatting, and content upon request (currently process with OIT), or have a standardized report generated by RESPEC. WC has provided summaries for each and reordered the list by priority. Thanks.

1. ~~Run report/spreadsheet of unique owners per basin~~ – Done and Deployed.
2. Claims in closed cases but no operating authority dates
3. Run report of non-standard remarks
4. ~~Report of claims by remark — Adjudication basin remarks reports~~ – Done and Deployed.
5. Claims by representative. In the test database, information is available, but not in report form.
6. The ability to run a report showing claims by owner.
7. The ability to run a report identifying claims on a source.
8. Add/update elements associated with remarks.
9. Removal of remarks in bulk

3. Discuss changes to claim exam and re-exam with court before changing guidebook, including updates to and creation of issue remarks.

Follow-up:

Ongoing; Water Court has reviewed all chapters and returned them to DNRC. DNRC will continue work on finalizing the guidebook.

DNRC finalized the exam and re-exam procedures on Dec. 18th and sent them to the Water Court for review.

DNRC will use these procedures to complete QC checks of completed work before delivery to the Water Court.

Past Issues Identified/No Current Work Identified

1. **Correct versioning problem**
 - This will be reviewed once a final decree has been released and it is verified that it is fixed.
2. **Update internal DNRC permissions so water rights cannot be changed.**
 - Internal permissions have been updated.
3. **No one in the Department has authority to modify a water right decreed by the court.**
 - This has been messaged to staff and will continue to be monitored.
4. **Provide timely responses to WC requests and do it without modification.**
 - DNRC will ensure staff are providing timely data without modification. DNRC staff will contact WC staff if more information is needed before changing anything to make sure it is correct. It should not be done differently until approved by WC, no assumptions.
5. **POD Sorting Development**
 - POD sorting rules deployed on 8/31 state no automatic sorting for any Water Court adjudication water rights (manual only if user has permissions). NA will still allow auto-sorting and have limited permissions only to NA water rights.
6. **Final Decree Tabulation**
 - This is complete – it was included in the final decree package table above and deployed 8/31.
7. **Remove “deceased” from addresses in the database.**
 - This is complete – check box in interface disabled, Coey cleaned database (11/1).
8. **Run final decree abstracts /Run decree abstracts.**

Final Decree Package

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| – Interlocutory Decree Mailing Labels | Deployed 5/5/23 |
| – Objection Notice | Deployed 6/26/23 |
| – Interlocutory Decree Mailing List | Deployed 8/31/23 |
| – OWNINDEX_FINAL.RDF | Deployed 8/31/23 |
| – SRCINDEX_FINAL.RDF | Deployed 8/31/23 |
| – WTDIDINDEX_FINAL.RDF | Deployed 8/31/23 |
| – Final Decree Mailing Labels | Deployed 8/31/23 |
| i. WRD3030R_FINAL -- Excel version | Deployed 8/31/23 |
| ii. WRD3030R -- Excel version | Deployed 8/31/23 |
| – FINAL Decree Mailing List | Deployed 8/31/23 |
| i. WRD3040R_FINAL -- Excel version | Deployed 8/31/23 |
| ii. WRD3040R -- Excel version | Deployed 8/31/23 |
| – Counter Objection Notice | Deployed 1/25/24 |
| – Decree Prelim/Interlocutory | Deployed 1/25/24 |
| – Decree, Owners Copy Prelim/Interlocutory | Deployed 1/25/24 |
| – Decree Final | Deployed 1/25/24 |
| – Decree, Owners Copy Final Improvements | Deployed 1/25/24 |

2025 Legislative Asks:

1. **Report of changes to claims in a decree.**

WPIC 3.18.2024- Tracking of Water Court Request of the DNRC (“punchlist”)

- System doesn’t currently allow for this as described.
- It is part of the planned audit table work, no established funding currently, Legislative ask in a future session.
- No ETA at this time.
- 2025 Ask
- 2. Print and mail budget**
 - Print and Mail payment was discussed at the Budget Meeting on 5/2, it was determined that DNRC will continue to pay costs through June 2025.
 - DNRC and WC will develop a 2025 funding ask.
- 3. Provide list of water rights DNRC personnel have modified.**
 - In the future, a long-term development request for DNRC will be made associated with the DNRC Audit Findings to track all changes and what those changes are.
 - Not sure if this will take a legislative ask.

05/12/2023 Water Court Punchlist Summary (first status report agreed to by Water Court and DNRC)

This is a high-level summary of the documented list of requests by the Water Court based on database requests from Sara on 1/20/23 and objectives from Judge McElyea on 2/6/23 and a meeting with DNRC and the Water Court on 4/12/2023. As new items come up or are developed, discussion and action items will be identified in the report, once they are resolved we will provide a follow-up (blue), if complete, and no concerns raised, it will be removed from the next report (red).

Status: In progress/actively worked on

All these requests are budgeted for and are contracted with RESPEC or can be fixed internally. The timelines identified below are the DNRC’s best estimate of delivery based on timely and responsive participation by the Water Court staff in development.

1. Correct versioning problem

Follow-up:

- Dave ran the OA data update script a couple of weeks ago. Chris P. sent out an email asking for feedback, non was received. This is considered done.
- **This task was completed at the end of April, and it will be removed from the next report.**

2. Print and mail budget

Follow-up:

- Print and Mail payment was discussed at the Budget Meeting on 5/2, it was determined that DNRC will continue to pay costs through June 2025. DNRC and WC will develop a 2025 funding ask.
- **This item has been discussed, and funding ask will be added to the 2025 session section.**

3. Run final decree abstracts /Run decree abstracts

Follow-up:

- Per discussion with Chris P., Kerry, and Russ on 5/8, this timeline was set in error and the new timeline, including testing, is end of September. This is for the final decree package only and depends on bug fixes and any other work that is prioritized ahead of the final decree package by the Water Court.
- Respec estimated timeline for development of current work (doesn’t include testing):
 - i. Yellow is developer 1, Green is developer 2

Task Name	Duration	Start	Proposed Finish	Complete -> QA -> QT -> UAT
SSRS Report Work WC - (PRELIMINARY)	44 days	Tue 5/2/23	Fri 6/30/23	
Final Decree Package	44 days	Tue 5/2/23	Fri 6/30/23	
WRD3030R_IDL -- Decree Mailing Labels Interlocutory	3 days	Tue 5/2/23	Thu 5/4/23	Fri 5/5/23
WRD3040R_IDL -- Decree Mailing List Interlocutory	3 days	Fri 5/5/23	Tue 5/9/23	ongoing
Changes needed for the 3050 & 3051 including bug fixes	6 days	Wed 5/10/23	Wed 5/17/23	3050 – Dev done 5/8, UAT 5/11 3051 -ongoing
WRD2020R – Decree Prelim/Interlocutory	10 days	Thu 5/18/23	Wed 5/31/23	

WRD2025R.RDF – Decree, Owners Copy Prelim/Interlocutory	10 days	Thu 6/1/2023	Thu 6/14/23	
WRD2020R_FINAL -- Decree Final Improvements	6 days	Thu 6/15/23	Thu 6/22/23	
WRD2025R_FINAL – Decree, Owners Copy Final Improvements	6 days	Fri 6/23/23	Fri 6/30/23	
OWNINDX_FINAL.RDF – Improvements	6 days	Thu 5/4/23	Thu 5/18/23	
SRCINDX_FINAL.RDF – Improvements	3 days	Fri 5/19/23	Tue 5/23/23	
WTDIDINDX_FINAL.RDF – Improvements	3 days	Wed 5/24/23	Fri 5/26/23	
WRD3030R_FINAL -- Decree Mailing Labels Final Improvements	6 days	Mon 5/29/23	Mon 6/5/23	
WRD3030R_FINAL -- Excel version	3 days	Tue 6/6/23	Thu 6/8/23	
WRD3030R -- Excel version	3 days	Fri 6/9/23	Tue 6/13/23	
WRD3040R_FINAL -- Decree Mailing Labels Final Improvements	6 days	Wed 6/14/23	Wed 6/21/23	
WRD3040R_FINAL -- Excel version	3 days	Thu 6/22/23	Mon 6/26/23	
WRD3040R -- Excel version	3 days	Tue 6/27/23	Thu 6/29/23	

4. POD Sorting (DTFP-2508)

Previous discussions

- DNRC: The solution we’ve talked about in the past will work for the majority of cases, but there are still several instances where it won’t. For example, as I understand it, when a POD is removed, they need to be reordered (and always have been) because there cannot be a gap in numbers. We need agreement on how to address circumstances when POD numbers do change (WC is ok with this per the POD/OA meeting on 4/17)
- Chris reports that the auto sorting feature will be turned off on adjudication versions.

Follow-up:

- [Ongoing development, Respec is currently testing.](#)

Timeline for completion:

- End of May 2023

5. Make Final Decree versions of 40H water rights in database accessible

Previous Discussion:

- Short term: the WRQS is at end of life and no modifications can be made until the system is upgraded. Final Decrees versions will continue to be available as scanned documents on the WRQS, which have been and are currently available to the public.
- Long term: With the upgrade to the WRQS, Final Decrees will be available outside of scanned documents, and part of the tracking of versions of the water right.

Timeline for completion:

- End of November 2023

6. Final Decree Tabulation

Follow-up:

WPIC 3.18.2024- Tracking of Water Court Request of the DNRC (“punchlist”)

- RESPEC development work occurring. Susan will contact Sara to set up a meeting. This is lower priority than the Final Decree package and will be set-up once Susan has time to do the story.

Timeline for completion:

- TBD

7. Misc. Reports

The Water Court can either have reports that vary in composition, formatting, and content upon request (currently process with OIT), or have a standardized report generated by RESPEC. Water Court has two hours of RESPEC time to build out rough cost estimate.

1. Run report/spreadsheet of unique owners per basin
2. Claims in closed cases but no operating authority dates
3. Run report of non-standard remarks
4. Removal of remarks in bulk
5. Add/update elements associated with remarks
6. Bulk removal of remarks
7. Report of claims by remark
8. Claims by representative. In the test database, information is available, but not in report form
9. The ability to run a report identifying claims on a source.
10. The ability to run a report showing claims by owner.
11. Ability to make changes to decree issuance documents. Specifically, we need the ability to make changes to counterobjections notices.

DNRC follow-up:

- Respec will set up a 2-hour meeting with the WC and DNRC tech team to get the information they need to quote us for build. This is lower in priority than the decree package and general bug fixes. No timeline yet as to when meetings will occur.

WC follow-up needed:

- We need more information on number 11. If this is a request to change the counterobjection notice reports, then this will be a 2-3 week process with costs associated (like final decree reports). If the changes are small, such as dates and locations, it may be an option. We will need more information.
- Are numbers 4 and 6 duplicates? Please explain if they are not.

8. Provide list of water rights Dave Coey or other DNRC personnel have modified

- Currently this report is not possible. Today we can only identify a "modified date" which only indicates a change was made, not what the change was.
- In the future, a long-term development request for DNRC will be made associated with the DNRC Audit Findings to track all changes and what those changes are.

Follow-up:

- DNRC will continue to monitor and address any known data integrity issues if found.
- This item will be removed from the next report.

9. No one in the Department has authority to modify a water right decreed by the court

Follow-up:

- This instruction was given on 6/23 via email, provided during training in Missoula 9/21, and a correction made to the re-exam guidebook mid-December. No other modifications have been brought to our attention. DNRC will continue to monitor.

- This item will be removed from the next report.

10. Update internal DNRC permissions so water rights cannot be changed.

Follow-up:

- This has been completed, no current DNRC action.
- This item will be removed from the next report.

11. Provide timely responses to our requests.

Follow-up:

- DNRC will continue to ensure that staff are providing timely data.
- No current DNRC action, this item will be removed from the next report.

12. Deliver what we ask for without modification.

Follow-up:

- This instruction was given; and DNRC staff will still request clarification as needed.
- No current DNRC action, this item will be removed from the next report.

13. Removal/deletion of versions created in error.

Follow-up:

- It was agreed that the water court would not directly be able to delete reexam versions since there is potential to erase DNRC work, so Sara agreed that Laura could have that ability. Completed on 4/27/23.
- No current DNRC action, this item will be removed from the next report.

14. Discuss changes to claim exam and re-exam with court before changing guidebook, including updates to and creation of issue remarks.

- Ongoing; Water Court is currently reviewing proposed updates to claim exam and re-exam manuals.

Follow-up:

- 248 Order updated guidance has been completed. This was collaborated on between DNRC and the Water Court.

Timeline for completion:

- TBD, DNRC suggest this item be removed from the next report because WC and DNRC are actively collaborating on this project.

2025 Legislative Asks:

1. Report of changes to claims in a decree

- System doesn’t currently allow for this as described.
- It is part of the planned audit table work, no established funding currently, Legislative ask in a future session.
- No ETA at this time.