

## **ROCKY BOY'S/NORTH CENTRAL MONTANA REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM**

### **Project Goal**

- To ensure a safe and sustainable rural, municipal, and industrial water supply for residents of the Rocky Boy's Reservation and citizens residing in Chouteau, Hill, Liberty, Pondera, Teton, Glacier, and Toole counties of Montana.

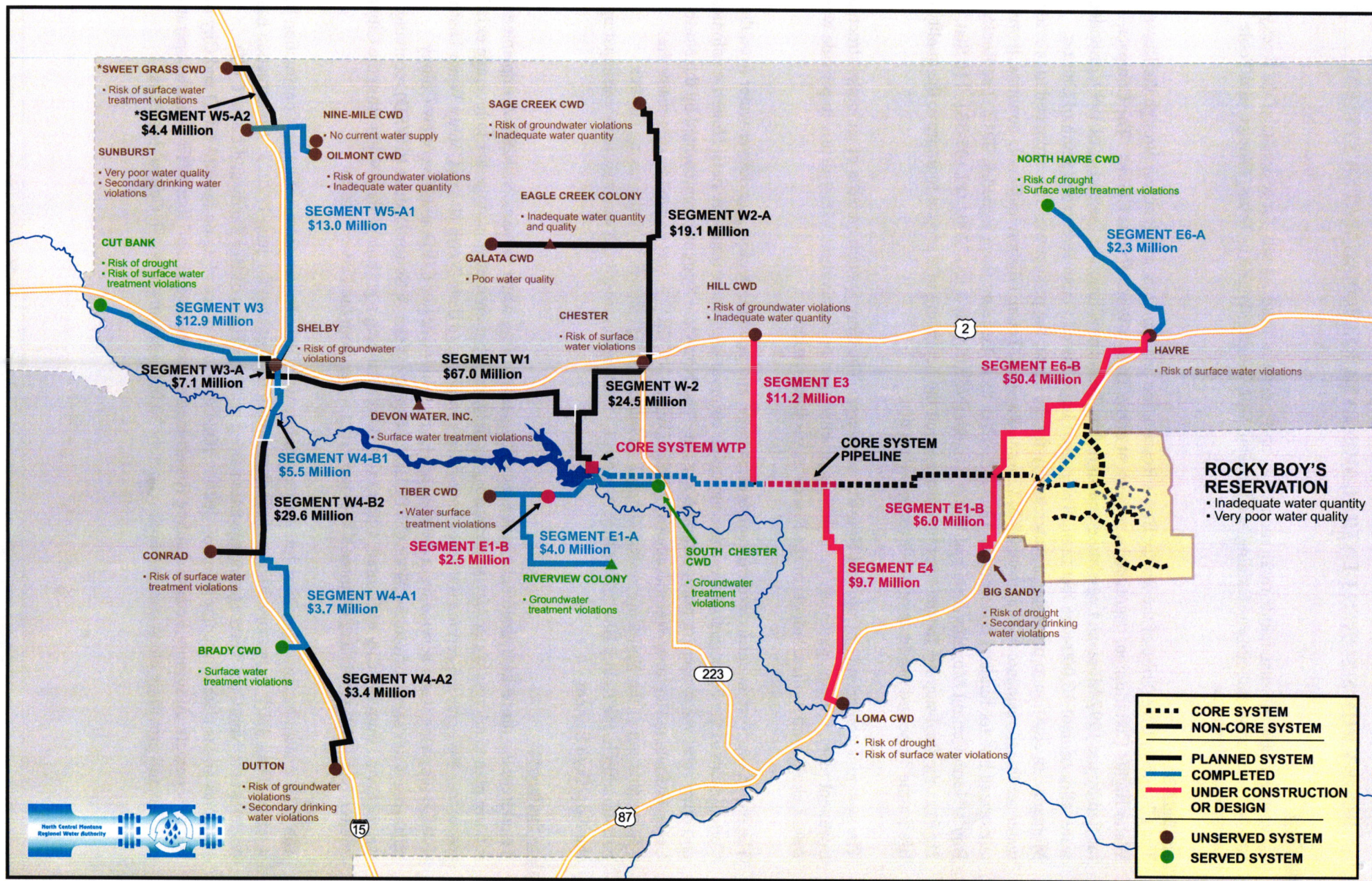
### **System Summary**

- The Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation and the State of Montana, through the Reserved Water Rights Commission, negotiated a settlement of the Tribe's Water Rights Claims. The Compact, ratified by the 1997 Montana Legislature and signed by President Clinton in December of 1999, provided a water allocation of 10,000-acre feet to the Tribe from Lake Elwell (Tiber Reservoir) south of Chester, Montana. In addition to providing a water supply for the Tribe, the project was also expanded to provide water service to residents of Chouteau, Hill, Liberty, Pondera, Teton, Glacier, and Toole counties. It was authorized but not funded on December 12, 2002, when then President Bush signed S. 2017, The Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System (NCMRWS) Act of 2002 (PL107-331, 116 Stat. 2859) as the final step the federal approval process and the beginning of a project to improve the quality of life for the Tribe and residents of north central Montana.
- The system is comprised of Core and Non-Core Systems. The Core System consists of an intake structure, treatment plant, storage, pumping, transmission pipeline, and on-reservation infrastructure to provide water from Lake Elwell to the residents of the Rocky Boy's Reservation.
- The Non-Core System consists of the pipelines, storage, and pumping facilities to deliver water from the Core System to the Participating Systems, including communities, rural water districts, Hutterite colonies and other rural water users in north central Montana. The Non-Core System is represented by the North Central Montana Regional Water Authority (NCMRWA). NCMRWA was created to administer the implementation of the Non-Core system through an Interlocal Agreement with the taxing entities participating in the Rocky Boy's/NCMRWA project. There are currently 22 water systems participating in the Non-Core System.

### **Complete Segments**

- To address the immediate challenges experienced by participating water systems NCMRWA implanted an interim plan to address water service scenarios, whereby member entities work together to leverage existing resources. Five interim service scenarios have been completed to date: North Havre County Water District (CWD) receiving water service from the City of Havre, South Chester CWD and Riverview Colony receiving water service from the Tiber CWD, Brady County Water & Sewer District (CWSD) receiving water service from the City of Conrad, City of Cut Bank receiving a portion of their water from the City of Shelby, Nine Mile CWD and Oilmont CWD receiving water from the City of Shelby
- The Core system has installed 28 miles of core pipeline with 26 miles remaining. Sletten Construction began work on Tiber TWP in January 2020 with final completion scheduled for June 1, 2023. Construction has begun on the Non-Core Tiber area pumpstation along with the Town of Big Sandy and Loma CWD segments and is slated for completion by 2024. Final design is proceeding on the Hill CWD and City of Havre segments. Assuming Federal funding is sustained at recent levels, the Tiber WTP could be operational by 2026 and providing clean water to approximately 30,000 residents of North Central Montana.



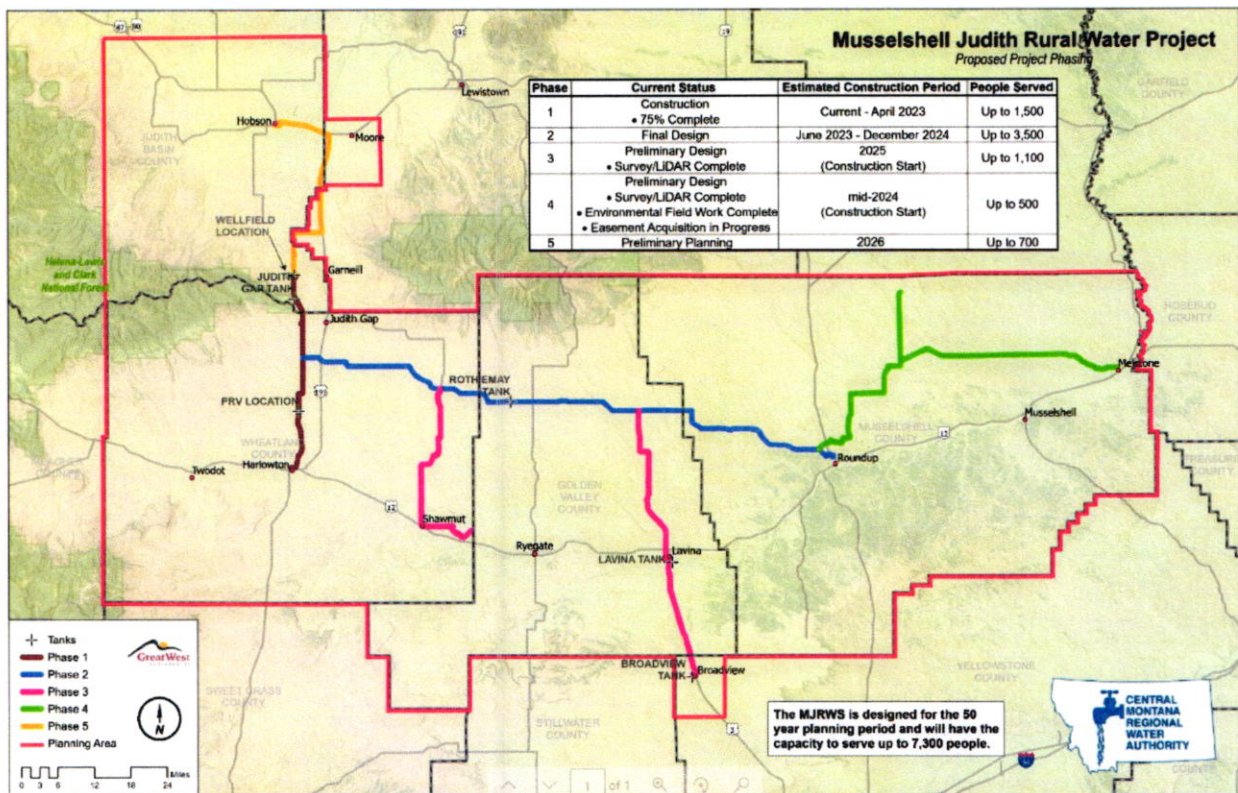




## Project Update January 2023 Musselshell Judith Rural Water System

The Central Montana Regional Water Authority (CMRWA) has been working since 2003 to complete a regional water project in central Montana. The CMRWA is a coalition of eight incorporated communities, several unincorporated communities and many rural families in central Montana with a long legacy of poor water quality and limited quantity.

The Musselshell Judith Rural Water System's goal is to provide communities and rural residents in the region with a reliable supply of high quality drinking water from the Madison Aquifer groundwater. The groundwater meets all Primary and Secondary Federal drinking water standards. The water will require no treatment except chlorination.



The CMRWA has completed and tested three successful wells in the Madison Aquifer. This includes the development of two high production wells. The testing proved the high quality and adequate quantity of water available. The data collected from these wells allowed the CMRWA to obtain 100% of the full water rights needed for the project from the State of Montana.

The project will utilize a 230 mile piping system to deliver water to users. Once water is pumped out of the proposed wells the entire system will be fed by gravity except one area (Broadview) which requires a small booster pumping station. The system design is simple yet very efficient for energy use and operations since no treatment plant is required.

The CMRWA obtained federal approval from the US Bureau of Reclamation for the project Feasibility Report in 2014. Senator Daines drafted the legislation for the project and helped carry it through Congress. President Trump signed the federal authorization for the project in December 2020. The \$117



million project is proposed to be funded by a combination of federal (65%), State (17.5%) and local sources (17.5%).

The CMRWA has utilized grant funding from the State of Montana Regional Water Trust and USDA loan and grant monies to fund the Phase 1 project which will deliver water to Harlowton and rural users along the route. The Phase 1 project is currently under construction and the CMRWA anticipates delivering water to Harlowton and rural users by May 2023.

The CMRWA received notice from the Bureau of Reclamation in March of 2022 that it was being awarded \$37M in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding for its Phase 2 project which will deliver water to Roundup. This in conjunction with the \$2M competitive ARPA grant, \$2.5M HB 632 grant, \$0.5M grant through HB 11 for regional water obtained through the Montana Legislature completes the grant funding for the Phase 2 project. A \$5.3M loan through the State Revolving Fund completes the funding for the \$47M Phase 2 project. The CMRWA has completed mapping, environmental, cultural, and land acquisition on the Phase 2 project. The design of the Phase 2 project is being completed and construction will be initiated in 2023.

<b>Musselshell - Judith Rural Water System Project - Funding Plan</b>				
	<b>Federal Funding (65%)</b>	<b>State Match (17.5%)</b>	<b>Local Match (17.5%)</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Total Funding Thru Phase 2</b>	<b>\$46,702,600</b>	<b>\$12,577,000</b>	<b>\$9,358,000</b>	<b>\$68,637,600</b>
Phase 4 Funding Package	\$14,900,000	\$2,800,000	\$4,200,000	\$21,900,000
Phase 3 Funding Package	\$8,200,000	\$1,400,000	\$2,900,000	\$12,500,000
Phase 3A Funding Package	\$5,500,000	\$1,400,000	\$1,800,000	\$8,700,000
Phase 5 Funding Package	\$4,700,000	\$3,400,000	\$3,400,000	\$11,500,000
<b>Overall Project</b>	<b>\$80,002,600</b>	<b>\$21,577,000</b>	<b>\$21,658,000</b>	<b>\$123,237,600</b>
<b>Cost Share</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>17.50%</b>	<b>17.50%</b>	

The CMRWA has applied to Reclamation for 2023 BIL funding for Phases 3, 3A and 4 of the project. Reclamation expects to announce its 2023 BIL funding awards within the next month. All indications are that the CMRWA will receive a significant amount of 2023 BIL funding. Reclamation is also beginning work on the 2024 BIL funding package for the project.

In order to meet the federal matching requirements for the funds expected through the BIL and keep the project on schedule, the CMRWA is requesting the State of Montana's share for the Phase 3, Phase 4 and Phase 5 projects since these projects will all likely be federally funded before the next legislature meets. It is expected that a portion of these funds can be obtained through HB 11, however the CMRWA expects that the remainder of the needed State funds will need to come from another State source. With the remainder of the State and Federal funding in place, this project can be completed within the next few years.

For more information please visit CMRWA's website at <http://www.centralmontanawater.com/> or contact the project engineer, Bob Church, at [bchurch@greatwesteng.com](mailto:bchurch@greatwesteng.com).



## Milk River Project Costs

St. Mary Unit	Total Project Costs	Federal Gov. Share	Stakeholder Share
St. Mary Diversion Dam**	\$ 91,270,000.00	\$ 91,270,000.00	\$ 270,000.00
Halls Coulee Siphon Replacement	\$ 27,000,000.00	\$ 7,030,800.00	\$ 19,969,200.00
St. Mary Siphon Replacement	\$ 43,800,000.00	\$ 11,405,520.00	\$ 32,394,480.00
Restore Canal Prism to 850 cfs	\$ 58,800,000.00	\$ 15,311,520.00	\$ 43,488,480.00
Canal Fixtures (i.e. culverts, wasteways, Tree Removal, etc)	\$ 140,730,000.00	\$ 36,646,092.00	\$ 104,083,908.00
Drop 1, 3, 4 Concrete Chute/Stilling Basin Repairs	\$ 9,120,000.00	\$ 2,374,848.00	\$ 6,745,152.00
Sherburne Dam Cylinders/Conduit Crack Repairs	\$ 1,980,000.00	\$ 515,592.00	\$ 1,464,408.00
<b>St. Mary Unit Total Costs</b>	<b>\$ 372,700,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 164,554,372.00</b>	<b>\$ 208,415,628.00</b>
<b>Fresno Unit</b>			
Safety of Dams Project (Stakeholder Share 15%)	\$ 74,000,000.00	\$ 62,900,000.00	\$ 11,100,000.00
Bladder Raise to Authorized Storage Capacity	\$ 9,000,000.00	\$ 3,600,000.00	\$ 5,400,000.00
Fresno Concrete Repairs - Outlet Works/Gate Fixes	\$ 3,000,000.00	\$ 1,200,000.00	\$ 1,800,000.00
Cat 1 Failure - Fresno Dam Wing Wall	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 800,000.00	\$ 1,200,000.00
<b>Fresno Unit Total Costs</b>	<b>\$ 88,000,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 68,500,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 19,500,000.00</b>
<b>Total Large Replacement Projects</b>	<b>\$ 460,700,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 233,054,372.00</b>	<b>\$ 227,915,628.00</b>
<b>Funds Directly Allocated in CY22/23</b>	<b>\$ (92,395,000.00)</b>	<b>\$ (91,000,000.00)</b>	<b>\$ (1,395,000.00)</b>
<b>Remainder of Project Costs</b>	<b>\$ 368,305,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 142,054,372.00</b>	<b>\$ 226,520,628.00</b>

\*\* St. Mary Diversion Dam is estimated by Bureau of Reclamation at \$91 million and is currently being funded under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (BIL). Any expenses incurred on the project were before the BIL was signed. Remainder of BIL funding will be used to finalize designs on the St. Mary Siphon and Halls Coulee Siphon. All costs were updated by Bureau of Reclamation in the 4th Quarter of 2022.

Project Stakeholder Cost Share for Total Replacement Costs	
Irrigators & Pump Contracts (110,024 Assessed Acres)	\$ 223,573,835.29
Municipal & Industry Contracts (1.9050 %)	\$ 4,341,792.71