



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Montana Area Office
P.O. Box 30137
Billings, MT 59107-0137



IN REPLY REFER TO:

MT-450
2.2.4.23

VIA USPS

Subject: 2023 Irrigation Allotment

Dear Water User:

The allotment for the 2023 irrigation season is 2.0 acre-feet per acre. This is equivalent to the maximum water supply allowed under your contract. Any water diversions are counted toward the total season allotment. The allotment is based on the forecasted water supply for the 2023 irrigation season. If there are any changes to the allotment, you will be notified by letter.

All water users must submit a water order in advance of increasing or decreasing the use of water from the Milk River Project under their respective pump contract. These water orders are critically important for managing the water supply. Water orders are used to adjust releases from Fresno and Nelson Reservoirs based on total water demand. To order water, please email the following information to cjordan@usbr.gov or [call \(406\) 247-7334](tel:4062477334).

- Name
- Contract Number
- Location
- Diversion Rate
- Planned Dates of Use

Water users shall place water orders in advance of the requested date of use. If this advanced notice is not given and water is diverted, other downstream water users in the Milk River Basin will receive a reduced supply to satisfy their water requirements.

The following table provides the approximate lead time required for water orders based on several reaches along the Milk River:

Advance Notice for Water Orders

<u>Milk River Reaches Downstream of Fresno</u>	<u>Number of Days Notice Required</u>
Upstream of Havre	2
Havre to Chinook	3
Chinook to Zurich	4
Zurich to Harlem	5
Harlem to Fort Belknap Agency	6
Fort Belknap Agency to Dodson	8
Dodson to Malta	9
Malta to Cree Crossing near Saco	11
Cree Crossing near Saco to Glasgow	2

As a reminder, in accordance with your individual pump contract, you are required to maintain records of your annual water use and provide those records to us upon request. Failure to provide a water order request and/or failure to record the volume of water you divert will be considered a violation of your pump contract. This will subject your pump contract to revocation if compliance is not achieved.

If you have any questions, you can contact me at (406) 247-7334. If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

Sincerely,

Clayton R. Jordan
Reservoir Operations

cc: Ms. Jennifer Patrick
Manager
Milk River Project Joint Board of Control
1475 1st Avenue
Havre, MT 59501