

**MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STRUCTURE ENCROACHMENT PERMIT**

(Agreement Number)

(ID Number)

(Project Number)

(Maintenance Number)

(Project Name)

(Route)

(Name of Highway Structure)

APPLICATION FOR STRUCTURE ATTACHMENT: _____
(Give sufficient detail to permit thorough understanding and submit blueprints or sketches in triplicate. The application should show method of attachment and alignment of the facility within the right-of-way entering and exiting the structure.)

Section

Township

Range

1. Name of Applicant: _____
2. Address of Applicant: _____
3. If Applicant is a Corporation, give State of Incorporation and names of President and Secretary:

4. Highway survey stations, milepost, distances to centerline, and distance from right-of-way line (in metric units) near which attachment to the structures will be attached:

5. For how long a period is the permit desired?: _____
6. REMARKS OR OTHER CONDITIONS: _____

(INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING USE OF THIS FORM)

Applicant will complete this form in triplicate along with plans, sketches and an environmental checklist and send to the appropriate District Maintenance Chief for review and approval.

AN ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST MUST BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT AND MUST BE ATTACHED TO THIS PERMIT. THE PERMIT MUST NOT BE PROCESSED WITHOUT AN ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST.

IF THE PROPOSED INSTALLATION WILL RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT, PERMANENT OR LONG TERM IMPACTS TO THE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK IN TERMS OF SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE TRAFFIC VOLUMES, WEIGHT OR DELAYS TO TRAFFIC ON STATE ROADWAYS, SUCH AS MAJOR MINES GREATER THAN FIVE ACRES, A RAILROAD AT-GRADE CROSSING, RAILROAD UNDER OR OVERPASS, OR STRIP MINES, OR IF THE PROPOSED ACTION HAS PERMANENT IMPACTS TO OTHER FORMS OF TRANSPORTATION (RAIL, TRANSIT, OR AIR MOVEMENT), THE ENCROACHMENT PERMIT MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION FOR REVIEW PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF THIS PERMIT.

The Structure encroachment permit is approved subject to the following terms:

1. TERM. This permit shall be in full force and effect from the date hereof until revoked as herein provided.
 2. FEE. The fee for issuance of this permit is _____.
 3. REVOCATION. This permit may be revoked by State upon giving 180 days notice to Permittee, except in emergency cases and then in no event less than 30 days by ordinary mail, directed to the address shown in the application, but the State may revoke this permit without notice if Permittee violates any of its conditions or terms.
 4. COMMENCEMENT OF WORK. No work shall be commenced until Permittee notifies the proper District Maintenance Chief shown in the application the date the Permittee proposes to commence work.
 5. CHANGES IN HIGHWAY. If State highway changes necessitate changes in structures or installations installed under this permit, Permittee will make necessary changes without expense to State.
 6. STATE SAVED HARMLESS FROM CLAIMS. As a consideration of being issued this permit the Permittee, its successors or assigns, agree to protect the State and save it harmless from all claims, actions or damage of every kind and description which may accrue to, or be suffered by, any person or persons, corporations or property by reason of the performance of any such work, character of materials used, or manner of installations, maintenance and operation, or by the improper occupancy of said highway right-of-way, and in case any suit or action is brought against the State and arising out of, or by reason of, any of the above causes, the Permittee, its successors or assigns, will, upon notice to them of the commencement of such action, defend the same at its sole cost and expense and satisfy any judgment which may be rendered against the State in any such suit or action.
 7. PROTECTION OF TRAFFIC. The Permittee shall protect the work area with traffic control devices that comply with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices. The Permittee may be required to submit a traffic control plan to the Maintenance Chief for approval prior to starting work. During work, the Maintenance Chief or designee may require the Permittee to use additional traffic control devices to protect traffic or the work area. No road closure shall occur without prior approval from the District Engineer. All workers within the right-of-way of a Federal-aid highway who are exposed either to traffic (vehicles using the highway for purposes of travel) or to construction equipment shall wear high-visibility class 2 or 3 safety apparel. For nighttime activity, the flagger shall wear class 3 safety apparel. Permittee shall provide flaggers who are currently certified by the Montana flagger training program; the ATSSA flagger program; or the Idaho, Oregon, or Washington state flagger training programs.
 8. HIGHWAY AND DRAINAGE. If the work done under this permit interferes in any way with the drainage of the State Highway affected, Permittee shall, at the Permittee's expense, make such provisions as the State may direct to remedy the interference.
 9. RUBBISH AND DEBRIS. Upon completion of work contemplated under this permit, all rubbish and debris shall be immediately removed and the roadway and roadside left in a neat and presentable condition satisfactory to the State.
 10. INSPECTION. The installation authorized by this permit shall be in compliance with the attached plan and the conditions of this permit. The permittee may be required to remove or revise the installation, at sole expense of permittee, if the installation does not conform with the requirements of this permit or the attached plan.
 11. STATE'S RIGHT NOT TO BE INTERFERED WITH. All such changes, reconstruction or relocation shall be done by Permittee so as to cause the least interference with any of the State's work, and the State shall not be liable for any damage to the Permittee by reason of any such work by the State, its agents, contractors or representatives, or by the exercise of any rights by the State upon the highways by the installations or structures placed under this permit.
 12. REMOVAL OF INSTALLATIONS OR STRUCTURES. Unless waived by the State, upon termination of this permit, the Permittee shall remove the installations or structures installed under this permit and restore the premises to the prior existing condition, reasonable and ordinary wear and tear and damage by the elements, or by circumstances over which the permittee has no control, excepted.
 13. MAINTENANCE AT EXPENSE OF PERMITTEE. Permittee shall maintain, at its sole expense the installation and structures for which this permit is granted, in a condition satisfactory to the State.
 14. STATE NOT LIABLE FOR DAMAGE TO INSTALLATIONS. In accepting this permit the Permittee agrees that any damage or injury done to said installations or structures by any State employee engaged in construction, alteration, repair, maintenance or improvement of the State Highway, shall be at the sole expense of the Permittee.
 15. STATE TO BE REIMBURSED FOR REPAIRING ROADWAY. Upon being billed therefore Permittee agrees to promptly reimburse State for any expense incurred in repairing surface of roadway due to settlement at installation, or for any other damage to roadway or structure as a result of the work performed under this permit.
 16. Attachments to existing structures prior to the effective date of these rules are considered to be in compliance with this rule, provided:
 - (a) The owner shall inspect the attachment annually and shall repair any deficiencies. The owner shall maintain a record of the inspections.
 - (b) If the attachment is not currently permitted by a structure attachment permit, the owner shall submit an application for a permit and drawings to the appropriate district office for approval under these rules within six months of the effective date of these rules.
- (2) GENERAL**
- Where it is feasible and reasonable to locate utility facilities elsewhere, attachment to highway structures will not be allowed. Where other locations create undue hardship for the installation of the facility, consideration will be given to attaching the utility facility to a highway structure. The following conditions will apply:
- (a) All utility facilities attached to structures shall be attached as provided in this rule unless written approval to do otherwise is granted by the department's bridge engineer.
 - (b) Attachments to structures shall be inspected by the owner at least once per year and the owner shall repair any deficiencies immediately. Records of the inspections shall be maintained by the owner for a minimum of three years.
 - (c) Attachment to longitudinal structures on the Interstate system generally will not be permitted except to exclusively serve a highway facility. Attachments to existing structures crossing the interstate will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
 - (d) The attachment method shall conform to engineering standards for preserving the highway, its safe operation, maintenance and appearance.
 - (e) Attachment of a utility facility will not be permitted unless the structure can support the additional load, and accommodate the utility facility without compromising highway user safety and convenience, and its attachment does not impair bridge inspection or maintenance.
 - (f) Manholes will not be allowed in the driving lanes of a bridge deck. Where the structure has a minimum shoulder width of 10 feet, manhole access through the deck in the shoulder area may be allowed within the discretion of the Department.
 - (g) The utility attachment will be installed on the bridge in a manner which will not reduce the vertical clearances above river, stream, pavement or top of a rail.
 - (h) Utility attachments to the outside of a structure that is located within 440 yards of a residential structure, park, fishing access site, or other recreational facility will not be permitted. A residential structure is any building intended for human occupancy, including businesses. In other areas where, in the opinion of the District Engineer, bridge aesthetics are not a particular concern, a utility may be attached to the outside of the structure. Utilities attached to the outside of the structure will be on the downstream side.
 - (i) Utility facilities shall be firmly attached to the structure and where necessary padded to eliminate noise and abrasion due to vibrations caused by wind or traffic.
 - (j) The installation of a utility through the abutment or wing wall of an existing structure shall not be permitted.
 - (k) In locations where a utility attached to a structure is carried beyond the back of the abutment, the utility shall curve or angle out to its proper alignment outside the roadbed area within the shortest possible distance from the abutment.
 - (l) Utility facilities may be attached to structures by hangers or roller assemblies suspended from inserts in the underside of the deck or from hanger rods clamped to a flange of a superstructure member.
 - (m) Bolting through the deck or concrete beams shall not be permitted.
 - (n) Welding of attachments to steel members or bolting through such members shall not be permitted.
 - (o) The use of anchors driven using the explosive type drilling force shall not be permitted.
 - (p) Drilling in prestressed concrete beams shall not be permitted.
 - (q) Attachments of utilities facilities to bridge handrail or guardrail or their anchorage systems shall not be permitted.
 - (r) Attachment of pipelines carrying deleterious or corrosive substances shall not be permitted.
 - (s) The design of a utility attachment to a highway structure shall include provisions acceptable to the department for lineal expansion and contraction due to temperature changes. Line bends or expansion couplings may be used for this purpose.
 - (n) Each proposed bridge attachment will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Department.
 - (o) Trenching in the vicinity of piers, bents or abutments shall be a sufficient distance from footings to prevent undercutting or material from sloughing from under the footing.
 - (p) An application which involves the reduction of existing waterway area shall not be permitted.
 - (q) Utilities attached to bridges shall not be maintained from the bridge deck without the prior approval of the Department's District Engineer.
 - (r) Utility facilities shall not be attached to bridges on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places without written consent of the State Historic Preservation Officer.
 - (s) The owner of the utility facility shall be fully liable to the department for any damage to the structure caused by the placement and use of the facility on a highway structure. If the structure is damaged by the utility facility, through negligence or otherwise, so that the structure can not be used by the traveling public, then the utility must pay all costs to repair the structure, and associated costs.
 - (t) The department shall not allow any new attachments to a highway structure by petroleum, natural gas, or other products pipelines in seismically active areas (those areas which exceed 10% of gravity) unless the structure has been retrofitted or built in conformity to the department's seismic requirements since January 1, 1992. The department may waive this requirement if the department determines that the structure is adequate for the seismic area within which it is located.
- (3) NEW BRIDGE STRUCTURES**
- (a) Where the Department plans to construct a new structure, the design of the structure will, upon request of a utility company, be reviewed by the Department's Bridge Bureau for accommodation of existing or proposed utility installations consistent with the requirements set forth herein. The utility company may be required to reimburse the state for additional design and construction costs associated with accommodating the utility facility on the new structure.
 - (b) Installation of a utility facility on a new structure shall be coordinated with the bridge construction so as not to interfere with the operations of the highway contractor.
 - (c) The applicant shall submit complete plans and specifications of the proposed installation, including the weight per lineal foot and detail drawings to the department prior to the department's completion of plans and specifications for the proposed structure.
 - (d) Utility facilities may be installed through free standing bridge abutments, but shall not be permitted through abutments or bents that are expected to move as the thermal expansion and contraction affects the bridge. The hole created in the bridge abutment must be of the minimum size necessary to accommodate the utility and it shall be sleeved to permit relative movement between the abutment and utility.
- (4) PIPELINES**
- (a) At the option of the utility pipelines must be attached to a highway structure by one of the following methods:
 - (i) The carrier line shall be encased throughout the length of the structure and the casing shall be carried beyond, but not through, the bridge abutments and shall be effectively opened or vented at each end. The casing shall be designed to withstand the same internal pressure as the carrier pipe; or
 - (ii) The carrier line may be attached to the structure unencased using the following design factors:

Class Location 1	0.50
Class Location 2	0.40
Class Location 3	0.33
Class Location 4	0.27

The design factor specified shall be obtained in accordance with the equations set forth in 49 CFR 192 by any combination of wall thickness and/or pipe yield strength that will provide the required design factors. If the design factor is obtained by increasing steel strength, the utility shall provide certification at the time of installation to the department that the pipe, in fact, meets the strength requirements in the design calculations.
 - (b) The carrier pipe shall be pressure tested before start-up in accordance with the latest edition of applicable industry codes, as well as the applicable statutes and regulations.
 - (c) The attachment shall be designed to prevent any discharge from damaging the structure or reaching the waterway in the event of a rupture. That capability shall be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Department's Bridge Engineer prior to approval of the attachment.
 - (d) Pipelines using bridge members to resist forces generated by fluids in motion shall not be permitted.
 - (e) The following information shall be included in the application: outside diameter, inside diameter, pipe material, actual working pressure, substance carried, type of coating, and any other information requested by the department.
 - (f) Pipelines attached to highway structures shall be electrically isolated from the structure.
 - (g) Pipelines shall be attached to provide sufficient clearance for convenience and safety during maintenance and repair of the structure or other utility attachments on the structure. The pipeline shall be located to minimize the possibility of damage from traffic. Pipelines shall include the capability to allow for expansion and contraction of the structure and the pipeline.
- (5) POWER AND COMMUNICATION LINES**
- (a) Electric power and communication conductors attached to a highway structure shall be insulated from the structure, and carried in protective conduit or pipe throughout the structure. Exposed metallic conduit shall be grounded on each end. Where metallic conduit is installed within seven feet of any metal parts of the structure which are readily accessible, including, but not limited to, railings, platforms, stairs, the metallic conduit shall be bonded to the metal parts of the structure. When bonding, all sections of the structure shall be bonded to the metallic conduits.
 - (b) Electrical power and communication lines shall be attached to provide sufficient clearance for convenience and safety during maintenance and repair of the structure or other utility attachments on the structure. The conduit shall be located to minimize the possibility of damage from traffic. Conduits shall allow for the expansion and contraction of the structure.
 - (c) Attachments shall comply with the National Electrical Safety Code and applicable regulations.
 - (d) Metallic conduit attached to structures that are cathodically protected shall meet all of the above requirements and shall not adversely affect the cathodic protection of the structure, i.e. insulate the conduit from the soil and use anodes at each end for grounding. Method to be used shall be approved by the department's bridge engineer on a case by case basis.
- (6) BRIDGE CLEARANCES**
- Aerial power or communications lines will not cross over bridges where it is possible to avoid such installations. This is necessary to allow the department sufficient room to operate equipment to maintain bridges. Lateral clearance from a bridge will be sufficient to allow construction and maintenance of the bridge structure. A minimum vertical clearance of 7.5 meters (25 feet) from the top of the bridge rail will be maintained. Horizontal clearance of 7.5 meters (25 feet) will be maintained from the neat lines of the structures
- (7) MATERIALS**
- (a) All attachments to structures shall be constructed from durable materials designed for long service life and be free from routine servicing or maintenance. All materials shall conform to current applicable specifications and codes.
 - (b) All steel materials used in attaching a utility conduit to a structure shall be stainless or galvanized.
 - (c) Materials used for attaching a utility facility to the structure shall be compatible with the structural material to eliminate the possibility of corrosion.

The undersigned "Permittee" agrees to the terms of this permit.

COMPANY OR CORPORATION

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Signature

Signature

Title

(Date)

Title

(Date)

Environmental Questions Pertaining to #8 on Page #2- Environmental actions involving hazardous waste sites? (Superfund, Spills, Underground Storage Tanks, Old Mines, etc.)

8a. Name of Facility: _____ Facility ID: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

8b. Leaking underground storage tank site? Yes No

If yes, provide MDEQ identification number: _____

Petro Fund Eligible? Yes No

8c. Remediation Response Sites (State Superfund Site)? Yes No

If yes, identification number and/or site name: _____

8d. Federal Superfund Site? Yes No

If yes, identification number and/or site name: _____

8e. Active Mine: Yes No **OR** Abandoned Mine: Yes No

If yes, list the Mine Site ID#: _____

Mine Description or Name: _____

8f. Spill: Yes No

Spill Site: _____

Spill Description: _____

8g. Other Environmental Action: _____

For each well installed in MDT R/W, provide GPS coordinates in state plane coordinates (preferred) or well survey information in another format (continue on another sheet if necessary).

NOTE: Each well request needs to be submitted on a separate application form.

Well Designation	Easting	Northing

Control Number	Project Identification Number	Name/ Location Description	Route/Corr.	Fed Funds Involved? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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(↑ For MDT Use Only↑)

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST for:

- Approach Permit**
 Encroachment/Occupancy (incl. Utility)
 Maintenance Projects (with No Right-Of-Way Acquisition, Sale or Transfer)

Location: Highway or Route: _____ Milepost(s): _____

Physical Address: _____ City: _____

Legal Description: County: _____ Township: _____ Range: _____ Section(s): _____

Applicant Information: Name: _____ Phone: _____

Company/Utility _____ Business Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Impact Questions		Yes	No	Comment, Explanation, and/or Information Source (Attach supporting information, as necessary.)
Actions that qualify for Categorical Exclusion under MEPA and/or NEPA (See ARM 18.2.261 and 23 CFR 771.117)				
1.	Will the proposed action impact any known historical or archaeological site(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.	Will the proposed action impact any publicly owned parkland(s), recreation area(s), wildlife or waterfowl refuge(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.	Will the proposed action impact prime farmlands? (If yes, attach a completed Farmland Conversion Impact Rating Ad-1006.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4.	a. Will the proposed action have an impact on the human environment that may result from relocations of persons or businesses, changes in traffic patterns, changes in grade, or other types of changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	b. Has the proposed action received any preliminary or final approval from the local land use authority?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.	For the proposed action, is there documented controversy on environmental grounds? (For example, has the applicant received a letter of petition from an environmental organization?)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6.	Will the proposed action require work in, across or adjacent to a listed or proposed Wild or Scenic River?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.	Will the proposed action require work in a Class I Air Shed or nonattainment area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.	Will the proposed action impact air quality or increase noise, even temporarily?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.	Will the proposed action have potential to affect water quality, wetlands, streams or other water bodies? If the answer is YES, an environment-related permit or authorization may be required.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.	Are solid or hazardous wastes or petroleum products likely to be encountered? (For example, project occurs in or adjacent to Superfund sites, known spill areas, underground storage tanks, or abandoned mines.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11.	a. Are there any listed or candidate threatened or endangered species, or critical habitat in the vicinity of the proposed action?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	b. Will the proposed action adversely affect listed or candidate threatened or endangered species, or adversely modify critical habitat?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12.	Will the proposed action require an environmental-related permit or authorization? If the answer is "yes," please list the specific permits or authorizations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13.	a. Is the proposed action on or within approximately 1 mile of an Indian Reservation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	b. If "Yes", will a Tribal Water Permit be required	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
14.	Will the proposed action result in increased traffic volumes, increased wait or delays on state highways, or have adverse impacts on other forms of transportation (rail, transit or air movements)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
15.	Is the proposed action part of a project that may require other governmental permits, licenses or easements? If "Yes", describe the full extent of the project and any other permits, licenses or easements that may be necessary for the applicant to acquire.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

16. Attach a brief description of the work to be performed, including any subsurface work.
17. Attach representative photos of the site(s) where the proposed action would be implemented. Photos are to include any structures, streams, irrigation canals, and/or potential wetlands in the project area.
18. Attach map(s) showing the location(s) of the proposed action(s); Section, Township, Range; highway or route number and approximate route post(s).

Checklist preparer:

Applicant	Title	Date
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Reviewed for completeness by:

MDT District Representative	Title	Date
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Checklist Approved by:

Environmental Services Bureau (When any of the items 1 through 15 are checked "Yes")	Title	Date
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Transportation Planning (When items 14 or 15 are checked "Yes")	Title	Date
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Checklist Conditions and Required Approvals

- A. The Applicant is **not** authorized to proceed with the proposed work until the checklist has been reviewed and approved, as necessary, and any requested conditions of approval have been incorporated.
- B. Complete the checklist items 1 through 15, indicating "Yes" or "No" for each item. Include comments, explanations, information sources, and a description of the magnitude/importance of potential impacts in the right hand column. Attach additional and supporting information as needed. Ensure that information required for items 16, 17, and 18, is attached. The checklist preparer, by signing, certifies the accuracy of the information provided.
- C. If "Yes" is indicated on any of the items, the Applicant must explain the impacts as applicable. Appropriate mitigation measures that will be taken to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate adverse impacts must also be described. **Any proposed mitigation measures will become a condition of approval.** Use attachments if necessary. If the applicant checks "No" and the District concludes there may in fact be potential impacts, the Environmental Checklist must be forwarded to Environmental Services Bureau for review and approval.
- D. If "Yes" is indicated in item 11 a. (threatened or endangered species), the Applicant should provide information naming the particular species and the expected location, distribution and habitat use in the proposed action area, i.e. within the immediate area of the proposed action; or, in the general area on occasion (seasonally passes through) but does not nest, den or occupy the area for more than a few days.
- E. If the applicant checks "Yes" for any item, the approach permit, occupancy agreement or permit, along with the checklist and supporting information, including the Applicant's mitigation proposal, documentation, evaluation and/or permits must be submitted to MDT Environmental Services Bureau. Electronic format is preferred.
- F. When the applicant checks "Yes" to any item, the Applicant cannot be authorized to proceed with the proposed work until the MDT Environmental Services Bureau and/or Transportation Planning, as appropriate, reviews the information and signs the checklist.
- G. Applicant must obtain all necessary permits or authorizations from other entities with jurisdiction prior to beginning the proposed action or activity. The Applicant is solely responsible for any environmental impacts incurred as a result of the project; obtaining any necessary environmental permits, notifications, and/or clearances; and ensuring compliance with environmental laws and regulations.

Stream Permitting Guidelines

To be used for informational purposes when filling out the Environmental Checklist for MDT approach permits, encroachment/occupancy permits or Maintenance projects.

The most commonly required permits or authorizations are listed below. **Other permits or authorizations may be required**, and other laws may apply depending on the type and the location of the proposed activity. For more information please refer to "A Guide to Stream Permitting in Montana" available on the Internet at <http://www.dnrc.mt.gov/permits/> or from your local conservation district office. (The information provided below was adapted from "A Guide to Stream Permitting in Montana")

Montana Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act (310 Permit)

Any private, nongovernmental individual or entity that proposes any activity that physically alters or modifies the bed or banks of a **perennially flowing stream** must obtain a 310 permit before beginning work.

Contact the conservation district office to obtain a permit application, fill the application out and submit it to the local conservation district prior to any activity in or near a perennial-flowing stream. Once an application is accepted, a team that consists of a conservation district representative; a Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks biologist; and the applicant may conduct an on site inspection. The team makes recommendations to the conservation district board, which has 60 days from the time the application is accepted to approve, modify, or deny the permit. Local rules apply. There is no charge for a 310 permit.

For more information, contact your local conservation district or the Conservation Districts Bureau – MT Department of Natural Resources and Conservation at (406) 444-6667, or the Montana Association of Conservation Districts (406) 443-5711

Montana Stream Protection Act (SPA 124 Permit)

Any agency or subdivision of federal, state, county, or city government proposing a project that may affect the natural existing shape and form of **any stream** or its banks or tributaries must obtain a SPA 124 permit before beginning work.

Any agency or unit of government planning a project must submit a Notice of Construction (application) to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, which has up to 60 days to review the application, perform an on-site investigation, and approve, modify, or deny the application. There is no application fee.

For more information contact the Habitat Protection Bureau – MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks (406) 444-2449.

Montana Floodplain and Floodway Management Act (Floodplain Development Permit)

Anyone planning new construction **within a designated 100 year floodplain** must obtain a floodplain development permit before beginning work. New construction includes, but is not limited to, placement of fill, roads, bridges, culverts, transmission lines, irrigation facilities, storage of equipment or materials, and excavation; new construction, placement, or replacement of manufactured homes; and new construction, additions, or substantial improvements to residential and commercial buildings. Check with local planning officials or the Floodplain Management Section of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation to determine whether a 100-year floodplain has been designated for the stream of interest.

Floodplain Development Permits are available from the local floodplain administrator, who may be the city/county planner, sanitarian, building inspector, town clerk, or county commissioner. Permit applications are available from the local floodplain administrator or from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. Application fees are established by the local government and vary widely throughout the state. The application process may take up to 60 days. Joint application participant-see Permitting Tips section.

For more information contact the Floodplain Management Section – MT Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (406) 444-0860.

Federal Clean Water Act (404 Authorization or Permit)

Anyone proposing a project that will result in the **discharge or placement of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States** must obtain a 404 authorization or permit before beginning work. "Waters of the United States" include lakes, rivers, streams (including perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral channels with an ordinary high water mark), wetlands, and other aquatic sites.

Anyone planning a project must submit an application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also has regulatory review and enforcement functions under the law. Permit authorization varies depending on the size and scope of the intended project.

Activities that meet the conditions for a Nationwide or Regional General Permit may be approved in 10 to 45 days. Individual Permits require more extensive review and require a public notice period. Permit approval may take 90 to 120 days. Application fees for Individual Permits may vary from \$10 for private individuals to \$100 for commercial applicants. Do not send money with the application. Applicants will be notified if a fee applies.

For more information contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 10 West 15th Street, Suite 2200, Helena, MT 59626, Phone (406) 441-1375.

Short-term Water Quality Standard for Turbidity (318 Authorization)

Anyone initiating construction activity that will cause **short term or temporary violations of state surface water quality standards for turbidity in any "State water"** must obtain a 318 Authorization before beginning work. "State water" includes any body of water, irrigation system, or drainage system, either surface or underground, including wetlands, except for irrigation water where the water is used up within the irrigation system and the water is not returned to other state water.

A 318 Authorization must be obtained prior to initiating a project. The authorization may be obtained from the Department of Environmental Quality, or may be waived by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks during its review process under the Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act (310 Permit) or the Stream Protection Act (SPA 124 Permit).

Individual applications submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality are normally processed within 30 to 60 days. Authorizations waived under the 310 or SPA 124 permit processes correspond to the time frame under each permit system, usually 30 to 60 days. There is an application fee of \$150.00 (make check or money order payable to Water Protection Bureau, Department of Environmental Quality).

For more information contact the Water Protection Bureau – MT Department of Environmental Quality (406) 444-3080.

Storm Water Discharge General Permits

Anyone proposing a construction **activity that will disturb one or more acres**, a defined industrial activity; a mining or oil and gas activity in which storm water will come into contact with overburden, raw material, intermediate products, finished products, or waste products located on the site of such operations (including active and inactive mine sites); or other defined activity that **has a discharge of storm water into surface waters**. Permit authorization is typically obtained under a Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) "General Permit".

For storm water discharges associated with construction activity, permit authorization is effective upon Department receipt of a complete Notice of Intent (NOI), Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and fee. This must be received no later than the construction activity start date. For other regulated storm water discharges, a complete Application Form, SWPPP (except for Small MS4s), and fee must be received for review at least 30 days prior to the discharge of storm water from the facility or activity. Fees vary depending on the type of permit. Contact the Department or visit the website listed below for various storm water discharge "General Permits," Application/NOI Forms, fee schedule, and other permitting forms/information.

For more information contact the Water Protection Bureau – MT Department of Environmental Quality, (406) 444-3080, <http://www.deq.mt.gov>.