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PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-22-05  
February 22, 2022

Ravalli County Commissioners

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PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue wastewater discharge permits to the facilities listed in this notice. These permits are issued by the Department under the authority of 75-5-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA); the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.30.1301 *et seq.*, Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES); and Sections 402 and 303 of the Federal Clean Water Act. The Water Protection Bureau has prepared draft permits for the facilities listed below. Copies of the draft permits, fact sheet, and environmental assessments are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau or on the Department's website <https://deq.mt.gov/public/index>

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT:	City of Three Forks
FACILITY NAME:	Domestic WWTF
FACILITY LOCATION:	45.88861111 N, 111.53694444 W T 2N, R 1E, SE ¼ Section 25 & NE ¼ Section 36
RECEIVING WATER:	Madison River
OUTFALL:	Outfall 001
PERMIT NUMBER:	MT0020401

DEQ is proposing a draft Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit renewal for the City of Three Forks WWTF, which discharges to the Madison River. The Three Forks WWTF serves the city with a current population of approximately 1,922 people. The WWTF is a three-cell lagoon system with a polishing reactor and UV disinfection. The facility was upgraded in 2017.

DEQ is proposing to remove Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing (WET). The monitoring frequency for Oil and Grease has been reduced. Monitoring of Arsenic has been increased and the permit now requires monitoring of ambient pH, Temperature, Ammonia, Hardness, Arsenic, Total Nitrogen, and Total Phosphorus.

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: **Town of Plains**

FACILITY NAME: **Town of Plains WWTF**

FACILITY LOCATION: **296 Helterline Lane  
Plains, MT 59859**

RECEIVING WATER: **Clark Fork River**

OUTFALL: **Outfall 001**

PERMIT NUMBER: **MT0030465**

DEQ is proposing a draft Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit renewal for the Town of Plains, which discharges to the Clark Fork River. The Plains WWTF serves the city with a current population of approximately 1,750 people. The WWTF is a four-cell lagoon system with a polishing reactor and UV disinfection.

DEQ is proposing to include semi-annual monitoring of Oil and Grease and monthly monitoring of Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus. Quarterly monitoring of ambient Temperature, pH, and Ammonia will also be required in this renewal.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited and **must be received by 11:59 p.m. on March 25, 2022.** Comments may be directed to the DEQ Water Quality Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. **All comments received or postmarked by 11:59 p.m. on March 25, 2022,** will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permit. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail [DEQWPBPublicComments@mt.gov](mailto:DEQWPBPublicComments@mt.gov)

During the public comment period provided by the notice, the Department will accept requests for a public hearing. A request for a public hearing must be in writing and must state the nature of the issue proposed to be raised in the hearing (ARM 17.30.1373).

The Department will respond to all substantive comments and issue a final decision within sixty days of this notice or as soon as possible thereafter. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-5546 or by writing to the aforementioned address. The complete administrative record, including permit application and other pertinent information, is maintained at the Water Protection Bureau office in Helena and is available for review during business hours.