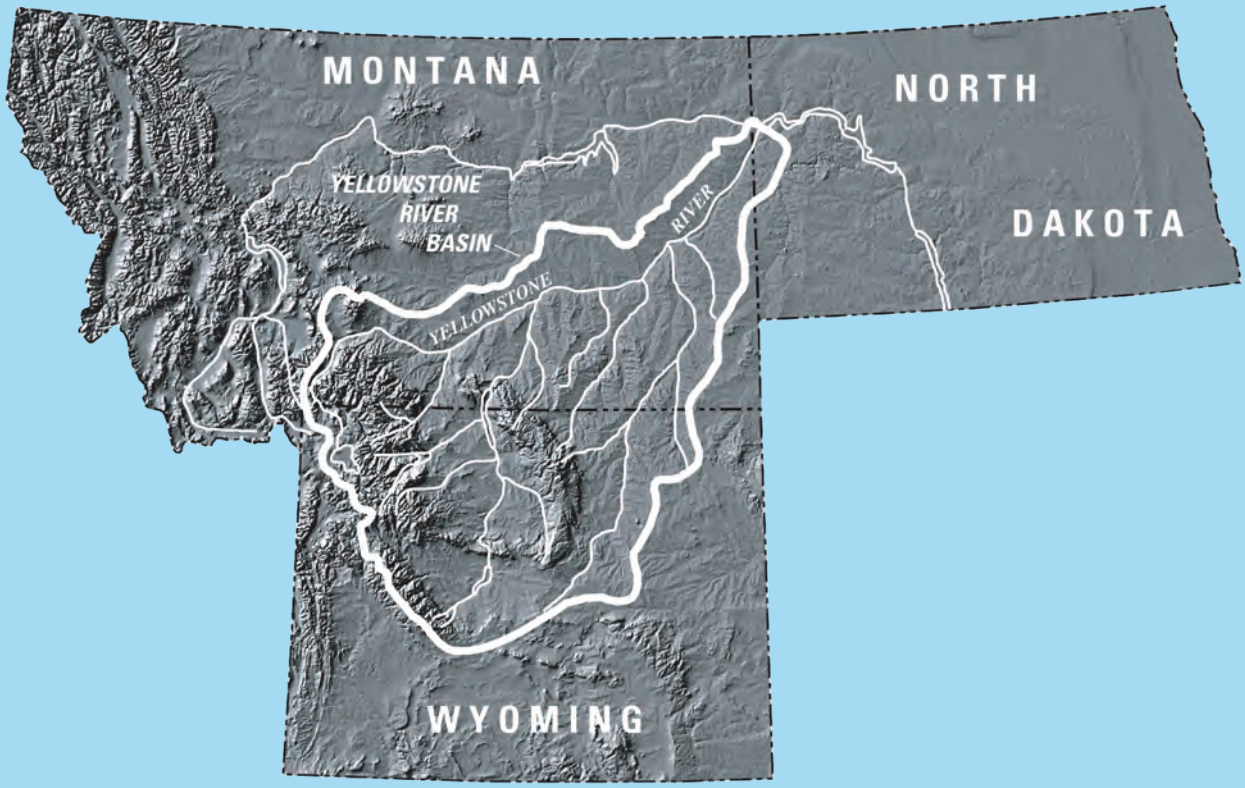
YELLOWSTONE RIVER COMPACT COMMISSION

WYOMING **MONTANA** **NORTH DAKOTA**



Seventy-Fourth Annual Report
2025

Yellowstone River Compact Commission

Seventy-Fourth Annual Report

2025

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Conversion Factors

U.S. customary units to International System of Units

Multiply	By	To obtain
	Length	
foot (ft)	0.3048	meter (m)
mile (mi)	1.609	kilometer (km)
	Area	
acre	4,047	square meter (m^2)
acre	0.4047	hectare (ha)[1]
acre	0.4047	square hectometer (hm^2)
acre	0.004047	square kilometer (km^2)
square mile (mi^2)	2.590	square kilometer (km^2)
	Volume	
cubic foot per second per day (ft^3/s-day)	2,447	cubic meter (m^3)
cubic foot per second per day (ft^3/s-day)	0.0002447	cubic hectometer (hm^3)
cubic foot (ft^3)	0.02832	cubic meter (m^3)
acre-foot (acre-ft)	1,233	cubic meter (m^3)
acre-foot (acre-ft)	0.001233	cubic hectometer (hm^3)
acre-foot (acre-ft)	0.000001233	cubic kilometer (km^3)
	Flow rate	
acre-foot per year (acre-ft/yr)	1,233	cubic meter per year (m^3/yr)
acre-foot per year (acre-ft/yr)	0.001233	cubic hectometer per year (hm^3/yr)
acre-foot per year (acre-ft/yr)	0.000001233	cubic kilometer per year (km^3/yr)
cubic foot per second (ft^3/s)	28.32	liter per second (L/s)
cubic foot per second (ft^3/s)	28.32	cubic decimeter per second (dm^3/s)
cubic foot per second (ft^3/s)	0.02832	cubic meter per second (m^3/s)
feet per year (ft/yr)	0.3048	meter per year
gallons per minute (gal/min)	0.06309	liter per second

[1]The unit hectare is used with the International System of Units (SI), which is in common everyday use throughout the world. See: Taylor, B.E., and Thompson, Ambler, eds., 2008, The International System of Units (SI): U.S. Department of Commerce, NIST Special Publication 330, 92 p., available online at https://www.nist.gov/pml/pubs/sp330/.

YELLOWSTONE RIVER COMPACT COMMISSION

WYOMING	UNITED STATES	MONTANA
BRANDON GEHBART STATE ENGINEER	JOHN M. KILPATRICK CHAIRMAN	ANNA PAKENHAM STEVENSON ADMINISTRATOR
Wyoming State Engineer's Office 122 W 25th Street Herschler Building 2nd Floor West Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002	U. S. Geological Survey 3162 Bozeman Avenue Helena, Montana 59601	Water Resources Division Montana Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation 1424 9th Avenue, P.O. Box 201601 Helena, Montana 59620-1601

Honorable Mark Gordon
Governor of the State of Wyoming
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Honorable Greg Gianforte
Governor of the State of Montana
Helena, Montana 59620

Honorable Kelly Armstrong
Governor of the State of North Dakota
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501

Dear Governors:

Pursuant to Article III of the Yellowstone River Compact, the Commission submits the following seventy-fourth annual report of activities for the period ending September 30, 2025

Minutes of December 11, 2025

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES, December 11, 2025, 1:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

Members of the Yellowstone River Compact Commission convened in-person in Sheridan, Wyoming, and virtually on December 11, 2025. Due to winter weather, most attendees located in Montana were virtual. In attendance were Mr. John Kilpatrick, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Chairman and Federal Representative; Mr. Brandon Gebhart, Wyoming State Engineer's Office (SEO) and Commissioner for Wyoming; and Ms. Anna Pakenham Stevenson, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) and Commissioner for Montana.

Also in attendance were Mr. Jack Morey, Ms. Michelle Hubbard, Mr. Joshua Fredrickson, Mr. David Schroeder, Mr. Paul Ratigan, and Mr. Jeff Cowley, SEO; Ms. Christine Schweigert, Mr. John Lunzer, Ms. Kathy Olsen, and Mr. Jacob Mohrmann, DNRC; Ms. Abigail Boudewyns and Mr. Chris Brown, Wyoming Attorney General's Office; Mr. Andy Ulven, Montana Department of Environmental Quality; Mr. Jason Whiteman, Northern Cheyenne Tribes; Mr. Bryce Klasen, North Dakota Department of Water Resources; Mr. Brooks Stephens, Mr. Dale Lentz, and Ms. Elizabeth Cresto, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; Mr. Todd Chambers and Ms. Jane Fogleman, National Weather Service; Mr. Eric Larson, Ms. Florence Miller, Mr. Jeff Coyle, Mr. Kevin Foley, and Mr. Javier Colton, Natural Resources Conservation Service; Mr. Chris Morris and Ms. Mellissa Norris, Bureau of Land Management; and Ms. Cheryl Miller, Ms. Madison May, Mr. Theo Barnhart and Mr. Aaron Fiaschetti, USGS.

Chairman Kilpatrick called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and requested introductions.

The proposed agenda was reviewed and approved.

Action Items from the 2024 Meeting

Chairman Kilpatrick reviewed a list of the 2024 action items:

- Action: Ms. Hubbard and Mr. Mohrmann to reach out to the National Weather Service to identify a TAC member. *It was confirmed that Jane Fogleman will be the TAC member. Complete*
- Action: TAC to produce a summary document describing how TAC can continue to support forecast improvements by the next YRCC Annual Meeting. *Document has not been provided and will be covered in the TAC report.*
- Action: The agenda for the 2025 annual meeting will include water year streamflow conditions, administration, and adjudication combined into one agenda item. These will be covered by the SEO and DNRC. The USGS will continue to present on reservoir conditions. *Complete*
- Action: Mr. Barnhart/Mr. Blythe to set up a call with the forecasting agencies and the Northern Cheyenne Tribe to discuss the possibilities of integrating this work with forecasting. A report on this discussion will be added to the TAC agenda in the spring. *Not complete, will do so going forward. Ongoing*
- Action: Add sharing of water rights per the 2020 YRCC resolution to the 2025 meeting agenda. *Complete*
- Action: TAC to review and potentially suggest a new format for the annual report for consideration at the 2025 Commission meeting. The proposed changes would apply to the 2025 report and subsequent annual reports. *Complete*
- Action: Wyoming to send save the dates for the spring TAC and Annual meetings. *Complete*

Annual budgets for July 2026 through June 2027

Ms. May led a review of the costs to operate seven streamgages and produce the annual report for the 2026 water year through 2030. The overview included a breakout of the costs for the SEO, DNRC, and USGS. Commissioner Gebhart asked if the 2- to 4-percent increase (in costs per year) was a real estimate. Ms. Miller replied that it is real until 2027; beyond 2027, it is unknown depending on the potential for changes in matching Federal funding. Chairman Kilpatrick added that the USGS will hold the cost increases for the next biennium regardless of any changes in Federal funding. Commissioner Pakenham Stevenson asked for more details about the cost for the report. Ms. May replied that those costs include the report, minutes, and maintenance of the webpage. A request was made for the presented USGS budget to be sent to the Commissioners.

Action: Ms. Hubbard agreed to send the USGS budget for streamgaging and reporting to the Commissioners.
A motion was made to approve the costs for 2026, and the motion passed.

Report on 2025 Reservoir Contents

Mr. Fiaschetti led a presentation of reservoir conditions for the 2025 water year. Overall, total reservoir contents in the Tongue, Powder, Clarks Fork, and Bighorn Basins were approximately 150,000 acre-feet lower than at the end of the water year 2024, which was a below average year. The Powder River Basin was the only basin that had slightly higher storage than in 2024. Commissioner Gebhart asked how much below average were the storage contents. Mr. Fiaschetti replied he did not have the statistics for each basin. However, at the end of water year the largest reservoir in each basin was 100, 93, and 100 percent of average for Bighorn Lake, Tongue River Reservoir, and Lake DeSmet, respectively. Mr. Fiaschetti acknowledged that Lake DeSmet end-of-year contents do not appear to change much and only using the largest reservoir might not be representative of all reservoirs in the basin. Mr. Schroeder added that he omits Lake DeSmet in his reporting because it carries over a large amount of storage from year to year and is not reflective of basin conditions.

Ms. Cresto provided additional information on Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs in Wyoming. Boysen Reservoir storage for water year 2025 was down 58,000 acre-feet from last year due to a late accumulation of snow, and a dry spring and fall. Boysen Reservoir is the lowest it has been since 2013. Buffalo Bill Reservoir has similar conditions to those with below-average storage. Buffalo Bill Reservoir is the lowest it has been since 2002. Current conditions are Buffalo Bill (57 percent full and 84 percent of average) and Boysen (70 percent full and 91 percent of average).

Wyoming SEO Water Year Administration, Adjudication, and Streamflow Highlights for Water Year 2025

Commissioner Gebhart gave a brief presentation about upcoming Wyoming legislative session topics of interest, none of which are specific to the Yellowstone Basin or the Compact. Highlights are:

- There is draft legislation to create a voluntary conservation program for the Wyoming portion of the Colorado River Basin.
- The SEO testified regarding legislation to ban geoengineering, which normally includes cloud seeding. Right now, cloud seeding is excluded as a prohibited item. It is expected that the draft bill to ban geoengineering will be debated during the upcoming session.
- The Attorney General requested a funding exception for legal and expert costs related to lawsuits and increasing interstate disputes, mostly within the Colorado River Basin.

Mr. Schroeder gave a presentation about conditions, adjudications, and administration in the Tongue and Powder River Basin (SEO Division II).

Conditions:

The water year began with reservoirs carrying over storage (available storage) of 34 percent in the Tongue River Basin and 32 percent in the Powder River Basin, noting that the Powder River statistics exclude Lake DeSmet from the analysis, as it carries over a large amount of storage from year to year and is not necessarily indicative of overall conditions.

The snowpack was meager until after the new year, when strong storms pumped up the snowpack to near normal amounts. While the Powder River limped along with basin-wide snow water equivalent (SWE) amounts in the 70th percentile in the late winter/early spring. The Tongue River fared much better, SWE was 100 percent of the 30-year median on April 1 and stayed above normal until it melted-out.

Peak flows were slightly earlier and much less than normal. Generally, smaller streams peaked in mid- to late May, and the larger ones such as Clear Creek, Big Goose Creek, and the Tongue River peaked on June 2 with the onset of warmer weather.

Due to the subpar snowpack, the flows in the Powder River Basin were well below normal, varying from 56 to 78 percent of average. The Clear Creek at Buffalo City Park (a natural flow site) recorded a seasonal flow of 18,200 acre-feet, or 56 percent of the 38-year average. Despite a decent snowpack, flows in the Tongue River Basin were below normal, ranging from 72 to 82 percent of average. The Tongue River near Dayton streamgage recorded 85,700 acre-feet or 82 percent of its 93-year average.

Reservoir storage at the end of the year was similar to the start with 32 percent available storage in the Powder River Basin and 37 percent in the Tongue River Basin. The slight increase from the previous water year, is attributed to measurement errors with reservoir releases from Bighorn and Park Reservoirs, where Park Reservoir ended up with approximately 800 acre-feet more carryover than the previous season.

Regulation:

Due to the below-normal conditions, priority stream regulation was earlier and harsher than normal. In a normal year, regulation will start early to mid-July. In 2025, regulation began on French Creek near Buffalo on June 24, and all major systems were in regulation by the second week of July. Frequent rains through the summer, especially in August, did provide some relief and helped lessen the reliance on storage reservoirs.

Priority regulation throughout the Powder Tongue River Basin dissipated in late September and early October as irrigators closed their headgates for the season and reservoirs began storing.

Adjudication:

In 2025, Division 2 staff inspected 50 Safety of Dams reservoirs in the Powder Tongue River Basin. These are reservoirs that meet specific size and hazard classifications. The Wyoming Board of Control adjudicated 10 reservoirs, 4 new stream diversions, and 5 existing stream diversion enlargements. Also, the Board endorsed 14 stock reservoirs. Endorsement is a mechanism to allow for de minimis stock use, which recognizes that the facility was constructed and put to beneficial use under the terms of the permit but does not go through the full adjudication process.

The Board of Control modified existing water rights by processing 23 surface water petitions and 1 groundwater petition within the Powder Tongue River Basin. These changes typically involve a change in point of diversion or change in place of use. However, more recently, the Board has been seeing more petitions related to subdivisions and disclaiming interest in territorial appropriations. This is due to the strengthening of subdivision development laws a few years ago by the Wyoming Legislature.

Commissioner Pakenham Stevenson requested more information about recent subdivision laws that were passed by the legislature. Mr. Schroeder replied that it goes back to 2022 with Wyoming House Bill 2, which addressed a loophole in statute where municipalities did not previously have to address water rights. Towns were growing into agricultural lands and orphaning water rights. The mechanisms are to keep the water right active, move the water right, apply for an authorization for detachment of water rights (water bank) to later transfer it, or a voluntary abandonment. Commissioner Gebhart added that going forward we are trying to address this legacy problem up front. Commissioner Pakenham Stevenson replied that Montana has similar issues, and she would like to see their legislation. Wyoming agreed to send the legislation via email.

Mr. Fredrickson gave a presentation covering the Big Horn Basin (SEO Division III).

Conditions:

Temperatures were above average across all of Division III. Precipitation was generally near-average, with some localized areas (central Big Horn Basin) having average to slightly-above average precipitation. SWE, based on Snotel data, was below the 30-year median in January and February, and ranged from 60 to 70 percent of the median. It improved in March and April, rising to 94 to 108 percent of the median. All of Division III was classified at varying levels of drought from “abnormally dry” to “severe drought” at the start of the water year (U.S. Drought Monitor). Many areas improved by the end of the water year to “abnormally dry.”

Even with near median SWE by spring, streamflow peaks and volumes were lower than normal. Observed streamflow volumes did not match forecasts for normal conditions; observed Big Horn River Basin flows were only 66 percent of average. These “inefficient runoffs” were likely related, at least in part, to the dry soils soaking up snowmelt. Similarly, peak streamflows were much lower and earlier than normal. Most streams in Division III peaked between May 31 and June 2. For example, the average peak flow (from 2015 to 2024) recorded at the Wind River near HWY 26 streamgage is 10,192 cubic feet per second and occurs on June 15. In 2025 the peak flow was 2,660 cubic feet per second on May 31.

Regulation:

Division III received and granted 13 requests for regulation of 10 streams (some streams received multiple calls). The priority dates ranged from 1879 to 1907. This compares to 8 requests for regulation of 7 streams during the 2024 water year. Instream stock use only was requested for Owl Creek in early August and granted on August 13. Instream stock use only was requested and denied for Gooseberry Creek in late September.

Adjudications:

Within Water Division III, the Wyoming Board of Control adjudicated 8 new surface water and no new groundwater rights. The Board of Control granted 9 surface water petitions and 2 groundwater petitions; another 10 surface water petitions were granted conditionally.

Montana DNRC Water Year Administration, Adjudication, and Streamflow Highlights for Water Year 2025

Commissioner Pakenham Stevenson gave a presentation covering the following topics:

Water administration activity:

The DNRC issued 7 new surface water permits and 8 new groundwater permits in the Yellowstone basin. In addition, Park County authorized the use of one reserved water right from the Yellowstone River. The DNRC granted 15 change authorizations (points of diversion, places of use, or to add stock tanks to an existing system), and one new water reservation for instream flow.

The DNRC issued 226 exempt well certificates (62 in Red Lodge 43D) and (61 in 43Q Billings), most are domestic and some for stock (up to 10 acre-feet per year). The DNRC was recently sued on the constitutionality of the exception. The suit is ongoing the State of Montana will be reviewing the use of exception to see if it is consistent with constitution

Adjudication status:

All YRCC streams are in preliminary, reexamined, interlocutory, or final decree status.

Update on changes to Montana water rights during the 2025 Legislative Session:

Commissioner Pakenham Stevenson provided the following update:

- SB 178 Temporary Lease of Water Right: Temporary leasing up to 40 days per year for up to 5 years and the lessor cannot use the "retired" place of use during the year that water is leased. Requires DNRC approval in short time period.
- SB 190 Consent to Approval of Application: AKA "waiver of adverse effect", applies to permits and change process. Allows a water user to remove their water right from adverse effect consideration by the DNRC. A previous version was removed from law due to a sunset provision.
- HB 432 Exceptions to the Change Process: Simplifies replacement wells by changing flow rate/volume limitations to proximity. Creates a process for adding a place of use for municipalities and county sewer/water districts. Creates an exception for adding stock tanks to stock water rights.
- HB 441 Align Provisional Rights with Final Decree: Defines a clear process for pre-1973 adjudicated water right holders to petition DNRC to reduce, modify, or revoke a provisional permit based on the final decree. Ensures that DNRC verification of changes considers the findings of the final decree and creates a process for issuing certificates of water right for provisional permit/change authorizations.
- HB 580 Clarify Water Right Abandonment: Provides protection from claims from abandonment for participation in drought plans.
- HB 681 Agency Coordination Bill: Provides coordination between applications for water rights and county subdivision applications. Provides for local reviewing authorities to condition a subdivision approval on DNRC approval to appropriate water. Provide certainty to individuals planning to use groundwater under exceptions.
- Statuary Changes to Permit Exception (also known as "exempt wells"): Introduces a notice of intent prior to drilling/use of exempt wells. This allows the applicant to make sure that the user does qualify for the exemption, prior to project completion. Previously the project had to be completed before an application could be reviewed and approved.

Mr. Schroeder asked, "When a basin is in the final stage of a decree, how does the DNRC handle a new permit application?" Commissioner Pakenham Stevenson replied that is why House Bill 441 was needed. The adjudication process is only for pre-1973 water rights. The State decided that the post-1973 water permits are provisional and subject to the final decree. House Bill 441 has the DNRC reviewing the post-1973 water right in accordance with the final decree and making changes as necessary.

Acknowledgement of Exchange of All Surface Water Rights in the Basin (per 2020 YRCC Resolution)

The Commissioners verified and the States acknowledged the exchange of all surface water rights before the November 1 deadline.

Potential clarification or additional information for future reporting

Mr. Schroeder suggested there is additional information that could be added to make the water right exchange more helpful to the end user, specifically the beneficial use and status associated with the water. The Commissioners suggested the TAC work on creating an amended or second resolution to better define the requirements of the water rights exchange.

Commissioner Pakenham Stevenson replied that additional information would be helpful to understanding the water rights. Montana is open to providing more information since much of it is publicly accessible and can be shared. This could be a TAC project or could be an email request from the SEO to the DNRC. Mr. Schroeder replied that the original resolution was previously referred to the TAC in 2020 and this request follows historical actions. Commissioner Gebhart added that a resolution might not be necessary but is open to both options. Commissioner Pakenham Stevenson added that maybe the SEO could start with an email describing the additions to the reporting and if the request is more complicated than expected the item could be referred to the TAC.

Action: The SEO will send an email to DNRC with requested water right information; if the ask is complicated, then this will be referred to the TAC.

YRCC Technical Committee Report

No new members were appointed to the TAC.

Montana Call Guide Update:

Mr. Lunzer led a discussion about how the Montana Call Guide (Excel spreadsheet) worked for 2025. Montana notified Wyoming on March 21 that a call was not needed. Mr. Lunzer plans to send the updated guide near the end of the year. Mr. Lunzer also updated the Commission on newly available hydrologic information on the MT STAGE webpage; Cooney Reservoir, Little Powder River, and Pumpkin Creek gages are now live on the webpage. The DNRC received a grant to improve the Tongue River Reservoir STAGE webpage with enhanced information about release volumes, gate openings, call plots, and information from the call guide. These updates to the Tongue River Reservoir page will be complete by the end of 2027. Mr. Schroeder asked if Mr. Lunzer had communicated with the Tongue River Water users about the lower-than-normal end of the year storage amounts. Mr. Lunzer replied they had below average inflows, especially in the fall. The lower levels are just a product of the flow year.

Forecasting Improvement Efforts:

Ms. Hubbard gave a brief overview of the forecast improvement discussion that was held this year at the TAC meeting. The following efforts have been made in the basin to support forecasting:

- National Weather Service has made improvements in forecasting streamflow since the Yellowstone River flooding event in 2022.
- There are plans for the installation of two new lower elevation snow monitoring stations in the Big Horn mountains as part of the Tongue River 2100 project.
- The Upper Missouri River Network (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) weather stations installed in the area will help with weather predictions in the short term, a longer period of record will be needed for inclusion in forecasting.

Ms. Hubbard asked the Commissioners if they were looking for a formal report. Commissioner Pakenham Stevenson asked that the reporting be captured in minutes and that will be sufficient.

Mr. Barnhart added that as part of the Tongue River 2100 Project two snow monitoring stations will be installed in the Big Horn mountains. Site locations have been identified in the headwaters of the Tongue River and have completed the permitting process. One station is in the southern portion of the basin and one in the northern portion within the recent fire burn scar. The stations will be installed this coming summer.

Provide Support for the USGS 2100 Project:

Ms. Hubbard replied that the TAC will continue to provide support for the project and when needed, Mr. Barnhart can reach out for support.

Commissioner Pakenham Stevenson asked what projects the TAC had on deck for the upcoming year. Ms. Hubbard replied that there are no major projects besides coordinating the annual TAC meeting to provide updates in the basin. Mr. Barnhart added that hopefully by then they will be able to report to the TAC on their discussion with forecasting agencies and the Northern Cheyenne Tribes about how the Tongue River Future Forecasting project could be used by forecasters. Chairman Kilpatrick added that there is potential for the TAC to take up modification of the annual report.

Update of Tongue River Future Forecasting Project

Mr. Barnhart gave an update, noting that this has been a growth year for the project, complicated by gathering information (especially water rights) from the two States to be used in the model. There has been progress in creating a long-term natural flow dataset in the basin, and they now have enough information to start bias corrections on the model. The plan is to have a simulation of the river system by late February.

Current and Future NRCS Operations in the Basin

Mr. Larson gave a presentation covering operations in Montana and Wyoming. Within the Yellowstone River Basin there are 56 Snotels and 30 snow courses. There have been upgrades to 27 sites to improve data quality including improved air temperature and snow depth sensors, transmitters, and antennas. All of which will help provide better data, especially with improved snow depths during storms. Most Snotel sites in the basin do not have soil moisture sensors, with only 13 sites containing them. They are planning to add more soil moisture sensors to the network at a rate of 3 to 4 per year.

Enhanced Snotels (super sites) are part of a program to increase monitoring capabilities. A super site has relative humidity, snowpack temperature, soil moisture, and solar radiation, in addition to the normal sensors. Right now, Sucker Creek in Tongue and Fisher Creek in the Clarks Fork are super sites. The NRCS plans to have 17 super sites in the Montana/Wyoming area covering all of the “major basin.”

Mill Creek Snotel was newly installed in July 2025, it previously was a snow course. It will take about 10 years to complete simultaneous measurements between the snow course and Snotel to develop a relationship that can be used in forecasting.

The NRCS is planning to install at least one Snotel site on the Wind River Indian Reservation that will cover high elevation snowpack that is poorly represented in the Wind River range due to wilderness restrictions. They will do some more scouting this winter and decide soon.

Mr. Schroeder asked about the use of snowpack temperature for forecasting. Mr. Larson replied that they are not using snowpack temperature right now for forecasting, but they are using it to see when the snowpack warms and becomes primed to melt off.

YRCC Annual Report

Mr. Fiaschetti led a discussion about proposed changes to the annual report that could potentially make the report more useful to the Commission. Major suggested changes include:

- Move the minutes of the annual meeting to the appendix.
- Add a summary of the minutes and YRCC activities for the year to the beginning of the report. This would include a section on "Compact Administration" which would capture any calls or regulations.
- All streamflow information and reservoir information would be consolidated within the report. Previously this information was dispersed throughout the report.
- Changes to presented streamflow information, such as removing USGS station manuscript metadata for each site and replacing it with a link and changing box plots statistics to a hydrograph with percentile statistics.
- Replacing information in the appendixes such as "Rules and Regulations of the Compact" and "Rules for Resolution of Disputes" with links to the USGS YRCC webpage.

Commissioner Pakenham Stevenson commented that the Commission needed to think about why the report is done, who is the audience, what does the compact require, and what is the value added to our work including the public and communities that we serve. A suggested approach was to zoom out and look at why we are doing it, who is it for, and what are the goals and tailor the report to that. Commissioner Gebhart agreed.

Chairman Kilpatrick asked Mr. Brown for his thoughts on what parts of the report are most useful. Mr. Brown replied that a lot has changed with how we access data and the minutes were the most helpful with understanding what the Commission was doing. Therefore, having an accurate record of what the Commission was doing is most important. Mr. Brown suggested a deliberate legal review of any changes to the report from both States.

Chairman Kilpatrick asked for input from the Commissioners on how to proceed with updating the annual report. Commissioner Pakenham Stevenson replied that this should be referred to the TAC to look at having better data and improved efficiency. Commissioner Gebhart added that he would like the report to contain enough hydrologic data, so that the reader has a good understanding of the hydrologic conditions for that particular year.

Mr. Schroeder asked the Commissioners if the report should be made easier for the USGS to complete since the cost is sizable. Commissioner Pakenham Stevenson replied that reducing the cost of the report would be helpful for agencies and the TAC could look into the agencies to do the reporting. The Commissioners directed the TAC to draft a formal recommendation for the format of the report with a goal of having the recommendation presented at the next annual meeting.

Action: TAC to put together a formal recommendation for the format of the report with a goal of having the recommendation presented at the next annual meeting.

Public Comment

Chairman Kilpatrick solicited public comment from those in attendance and received none.

Agency Updates

Commissioner Gebhart updated the Commission that the SEO is currently updating their water rights database and search tool and the completion is expected by spring of 2027. Commissioner Gebhart also added that the SEO made budget exception requests for upgrades to streamgage equipment and additional staff funding in the Green River Basin.

Mr. Brown relayed there is a newly formed Western Water Cooperative Committee (WWCC) to advise the U.S Amy Corps of Engineers on flood control pool levels in Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs. At a WWCC meeting in December, Mr. Brown raised the potential of revisiting the flood control at Yellowtail Dam as a potential to alleviate any recreational issues downstream. Mr. Brown suggested the Bureau of Reclamation Yellowtail operators contemplate any improvements in forecasting for reservoir operations that might help alleviate downstream and on-reservoir recreation issues and flooding issues in the past as this may be an opportunity to influence the Army Corps flood pool rules.

Mr. Whiteman updated the Commission that progress continues towards drilling groundwater monitoring wells near the Tongue River. Mr. Whiteman also informed the Commission that the Tongue River Advisory Group is working on an update. Mr. Whiteman also mentioned the Tongue River 2100 project, Tongue River RiverWare model, and the installation of two snow monitoring stations in the Big Horn mountains.

Chairman Kilpatrick updated the Commission that he is still the Wyoming-Montana Water Science Center Director as well as Acting Director for the Dakota Water Science Center. Ms. Miller is now the Acting Director of the hydrologic surveillance branch and Mr. Barnhart is the mountain hydrology unit manager.

Arrangements for Next Year's Technical and Annual Meetings

Commissioners decided that the annual meeting will be hosted by Montana and be held on Monday, November 9 from 1:30 to 5 p.m. in Billings, Montana. The TAC meeting was proposed in the morning on Thursday, April 9, as a virtual meeting.

Action: Montana DNRC to send out save the date invites for the virtual TAC meeting on April 9 and the annual meeting on November 9, 2026.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Summary of Action Items

Action Item: Ms. Hubbard to send the USGS budget for streamgaging and reporting to the Commissioners.

Action Item: SEO will send an email to DNRC with requested water right information; if the ask is complicated, then this will be referred to the TAC.

Action Item: TAC to put together a formal recommendation for the format of the report with a goal of having the recommendation presented at the next annual meeting.

Action Item: Montana DNRC to send out save the date invites for the virtual TAC meeting on April 9 and the annual meeting on November 9, 2026.

Brandon Gebhart Digitally signed by Brandon Gebhart Date: 2026.07.01 10:25:10 -06'00'

Brandon Gebhart
Commissioner for Wyoming

For

Trevor Watson

Anna Pakenham-Stevenson
Commissioner for Montana

John M. Kilpatrick JOHN KILPATRICK 2026.06.23 10:35:55 -06'00'

John M. Kilpatrick
Chairman and Federal Representative

General Report

Operation and Budget

Work funded by the Yellowstone River Compact Commission has been primarily concerned with the collection of required hydrologic data and funded through cooperative arrangements whereby Montana and Wyoming each bear an equal share of the cost, with the remaining cost borne by the United States. Salaries and necessary expenses of State and U.S. Geological Survey representatives to the Commission and the cost to other agencies of collecting hydrologic data are not considered as expenses of the Commission.

The expenses of the Commission during Federal fiscal year (FY) 2025 were $160,400, in accordance with the budget adopted for the year.

The estimated budget for Federal FY2026 was approved, and proposed budgets for fiscal years 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030 were tentatively adopted subject to availability of appropriations. Operational costs of Agency Canal and White Horse Canal, which are necessary to compute flows according to the Compact, are also included. The budgets for the 5 fiscal years are summarized as follows:

Table 1. Estimated operational budget for fiscal years 2026–30.

Fiscal year	Budget by agency			Total budget
	Wyoming State Engineer	Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation	U.S. Geological Survey	
2026	$51,310	$51,310	$64,160	$166,780
2027	$52,980	$52,980	$64,160	$170,120
2028	$55,110	$55,110	$64,160	$174,380
2029	$57,730	$57,730	$64,160	$179,620
2030	$61,320	$61,320	$64,160	$186,800

Streamgage Operation

Operation of five U.S. Geological Survey streamgages at the measuring sites specified in the Yellowstone River Compact continued in water year 2025. Each station produced satisfactory records. Streamgages, along with reservoir-content stations, are shown on a map of the Yellowstone River Basin at the end of this report.

The Commission is primarily interested in the streamflow near the mouths of the Clarks Fork Yellowstone River, Bighorn River, Tongue River, and Powder River. Although the Little Bighorn River is excluded from the Yellowstone River Compact, its inclusion is necessary to compute streamflows of the Bighorn River in accordance with the Compact whereby the streamflow of the Little Bighorn River (including streamflow from Agency Canal) is subtracted from the streamflow of the Bighorn River. Additionally, the Bighorn River streamflow is adjusted monthly with the change in contents of Bighorn Lake.

During water year 2025, annual streamflow was below normal (normal is defined in this report as 80 to 120 percent of average) at all streamgages, except for the Clarks Fork Yellowstone River at Edgar, Montana. Information and statistics about the 2025 and 2024 annual streamflows at compact streamgages are displayed in table 2:

Tabulation of streamflow records for water year 2025 (tables 3–7) and graphical comparisons of the statistical distribution of monthly streamflow, annual streamflow, and annual departures from mean annual streamflow (figs. 1–4) are provided in the “Summary of Discharge for Yellowstone River Compact Streamgages” section. Tabulated streamflow records do not account for depletions from irrigation and other uses unless otherwise noted.

Table 2. Annual streamflow statistics at Yellowstone River compact streamgages.

Station number	Streamgage	Percentage of average streamflow for water year 2025[1]	Rank of annual streamflow by water year[2]		Year of lowest annual streamflow (rank equals 1)	Number of years of annual record
			2025	2024		
06208500	Clarks Fork Yellowstone River at Edgar, Montana, minus diversions to White Horse Canal	84	23	31	2001	87
06294500	Bighorn River above Tullock Creek, near Bighorn, Montana, minus Little Bighorn River near Hardin, Montana. (06294000), including Agency Canal Tailwaste near Hardin, Montana; and adjusted for change in contents in Bighorn Lake	71	14	35	2002	72
06308500	Tongue River at Miles City, Montana	72	24	41	1961	82
06326500	Powder River near Locate, Montana	50	15	42	2004	87

[1]Average is based on period of record at each station.

[2]The lowest annual streamflow is a rank of 1.

Diversions

No diversions were regulated by the Commission during water year 2025.

Reservoir Contents

Reservoirs Completed after January 1, 1950

As a matter of record and general information, month-end contents data (tables 8–10) and descriptions of these reservoirs are given in the "Month-End Contents for Yellowstone River Compact Reservoirs Completed after January 1, 1950" section of this report. Boysen Reservoir, located on the Wind River and operated by the Bureau of Reclamation, began the water year with 573,120 acre-feet (acre-ft) in contents and ended the water year with 514,774 acre-ft. Anchor Reservoir, located on South Fork Owl Creek and operated by the Bureau of Reclamation, began the water year with 475.2 acre-ft in contents and ended the water year with 530.28 acre-ft. Bighorn Lake, located on the Bighorn River and operated by the Bureau of Reclamation, is the largest reservoir in the Yellowstone River Basin and began the water year with 924,206 acre-ft in contents and ended the water year with 884,356 acre-ft.

Reservoirs Existing on January 1, 1950

As a matter of record and general information, month-end contents data for the four reservoirs in existence on January 1, 1950, upstream from the points of measurement, are given in table 11 in the "Month-End Contents for Yellowstone River Compact Reservoirs Existing on January 1, 1950" section of this report. These reservoirs include Bull Lake, Pilot Butte Reservoir, and Buffalo Bill Reservoir operated by the Bureau of Reclamation; and Tongue River Reservoir, operated under the supervision of the Water Resources Division of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. These data are pertinent to allocation under Article V, Section C, Item 3 of the Compact.

Annual Contents of Reservoirs

Information on reservoir contents at the end of the 2025 and the previous water year for the 7 reservoirs listed above, in addition to 38 additional reservoirs with storage capacity greater than 1,000 acre-ft, was compiled at the request of the Commission. This information is provided in table 12 in the "Water-Year-End Contents for Yellowstone River Compact Reservoirs or Lakes" section.

Summary of Discharge for Yellowstone River Compact Streamgages

06208500 Clarks Fork Yellowstone River at Edgar, Montana

LOCATION.—Lat 45°27′56.57″, long 108°50′38.78″ referenced to North American Datum of 1983, in SE¼SE¼SE¼ sec. 23, T. 4 S., R. 23 E., Carbon County, Hydrologic Unit 10070006, on right bank 400 ft downstream from county bridge, 0.5 mi east of Edgar, 6 mi upstream from Rock Creek, and at river mile 22.1.

DRAINAGE AREA.—2,045 mi^2. Drainage area from Wyoming StreamStats application creation using National Hydrography Dataset-High Resolution (Beta Edition) 10-meter 3D Elevation Program Digital Elevation Model data dated March 21, 2016, and Watershed Boundary Dataset dated September 20, 2018, using Albers Projection, central meridian −96.0, first standard parallel 29.5, second standard parallel 45.5, latitude of origin 23.0, North American Datum of 1983.

PERIOD OF RECORD.—July 1921 to September 1969, October 1986 to present.

REVISED RECORDS.—Water Supply Paper (WSP) 1509: 1924; 1932, maximum discharge. WSP 1729: Drainage area. Water Data Report MT–04–1: Drainage area. Wyoming StreamStats 2025: Drainage area.

GAGE.—Water-stage recorder. Elevation of gage is 3,460 ft, referenced to the National American Vertical Datum of 1988. Prior to August 31, 1953, nonrecording gage located at same site and elevation.

REMARKS.—Diversions for irrigation occur downstream from the station. In addition, lands upstream from the station are irrigated by diversions from the adjoining Rock Creek Basin. Discharge values and summary statistics prior to October 2016 have the diversions of daily mean discharge to White Horse Canal subtracted. Daily values with White Horse Canal subtracted continue to be available in the [Adjusted for White Horse Canal] parameter.

Table 3. Daily mean discharge for Clarks Fork Yellowstone River at Edgar, Montana (06208500), minus diversions to White Horse Canal near Silesia, Mont. (06208790), October 2024 through September 2025.

[Discharge is in cubic feet per second. Abbreviations: acre-ft, acre-feet; e, estimated; Max, maximum; Min, minimum. Symbol: --, no data]

Day	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1	412	486	e399	406	e308	e556	478	e1050	6630	1730	257	134
2	406	485	e409	e374	e319	e456	452	e1030	7230	1680	252	128
3	381	501	e426	e360	e304	e447	429	e1100	6710	1720	245	126
4	368	481	e435	e333	e292	431	413	e1460	5070	1640	236	120
5	355	487	454	e313	e291	412	405	e1790	3740	1560	229	117
6	369	474	448	e316	e305	399	397	1910	3010	1470	207	123
7	371	476	438	e320	e326	397	395	1600	2910	1310	209	127
8	366	449	438	e324	e329	378	425	1630	3440	1130	196	127
9	363	472	447	e319	e316	365	472	2010	4340	1010	184	123
10	342	483	442	e344	e299	377	491	2700	4790	936	183	123
11	335	484	426	e360	e287	379	455	3470	4750	854	186	114
12	336	501	409	e358	e285	377	481	4270	4870	807	175	128
13	325	499	446	e364	e292	372	690	4760	4680	763	173	142
14	341	503	438	e365	e303	371	697	4600	4560	689	165	155
15	347	488	436	e353	e327	380	609	3600	4280	648	160	169
16	363	487	436	e346	e343	367	617	2870	3940	733	164	195
17	400	477	421	e338	e333	356	795	2380	3570	796	166	186
18	425	479	427	e317	e319	373	895	2230	3160	688	170	178
19	441	472	433	e258	e316	369	706	2330	2930	621	157	171
20	457	460	426	e223	e314	348	643	2100	2900	567	147	164
21	442	416	419	e221	e345	327	667	1860	2950	528	141	159
22	469	468	423	e252	e416	355	652	1670	2970	483	132	185
23	474	500	422	e297	e490	342	631	1620	2800	447	142	214
24	470	497	424	e308	e535	336	608	1780	2300	418	144	256
25	470	e451	422	e295	e583	334	614	1980	1890	387	137	259
26	478	e446	418	e287	e557	368	589	2430	1660	358	126	242
27	465	e428	416	e293	e524	391	606	3190	1550	337	122	235
28	471	e420	412	e303	e538	432	922	4170	1520	289	121	241
29	475	e401	415	e299	NA	516	1180	4570	1590	264	130	241
30	476	e389	423	e304	NA	583	e1020	5230	1740	252	137	236
31	481	NA	420	e297	NA	535	NA	6,330	NA	262	131	NA
Total	12,674	14,060	13,248	9,847	10,196	12,429	18,434	83,720	108,480	25,377	5,324	5,118
Mean	409	469	427	318	364	401	614	2,701	3,616	819	172	171
Max	481	503	454	406	583	583	1,180	6,330	7,230	1,730	257	259
Min	325	389	399	221	285	327	395	1,030	1,520	252	121	114
Acre-ft	25,139	27,888	26,277	19,531	20,223	24,653	36,563	166,056	215,167	50,335	10,560	10,151

Summary statistics

	Water year 2025	Water years 1921–2025*
Annual total	318,907	--
Annual mean	874	1,042
Annual runoff (acre-ft)	632,543	754,385

*During periods of operation (water years 1921–69, 1987 to current year [2025]).

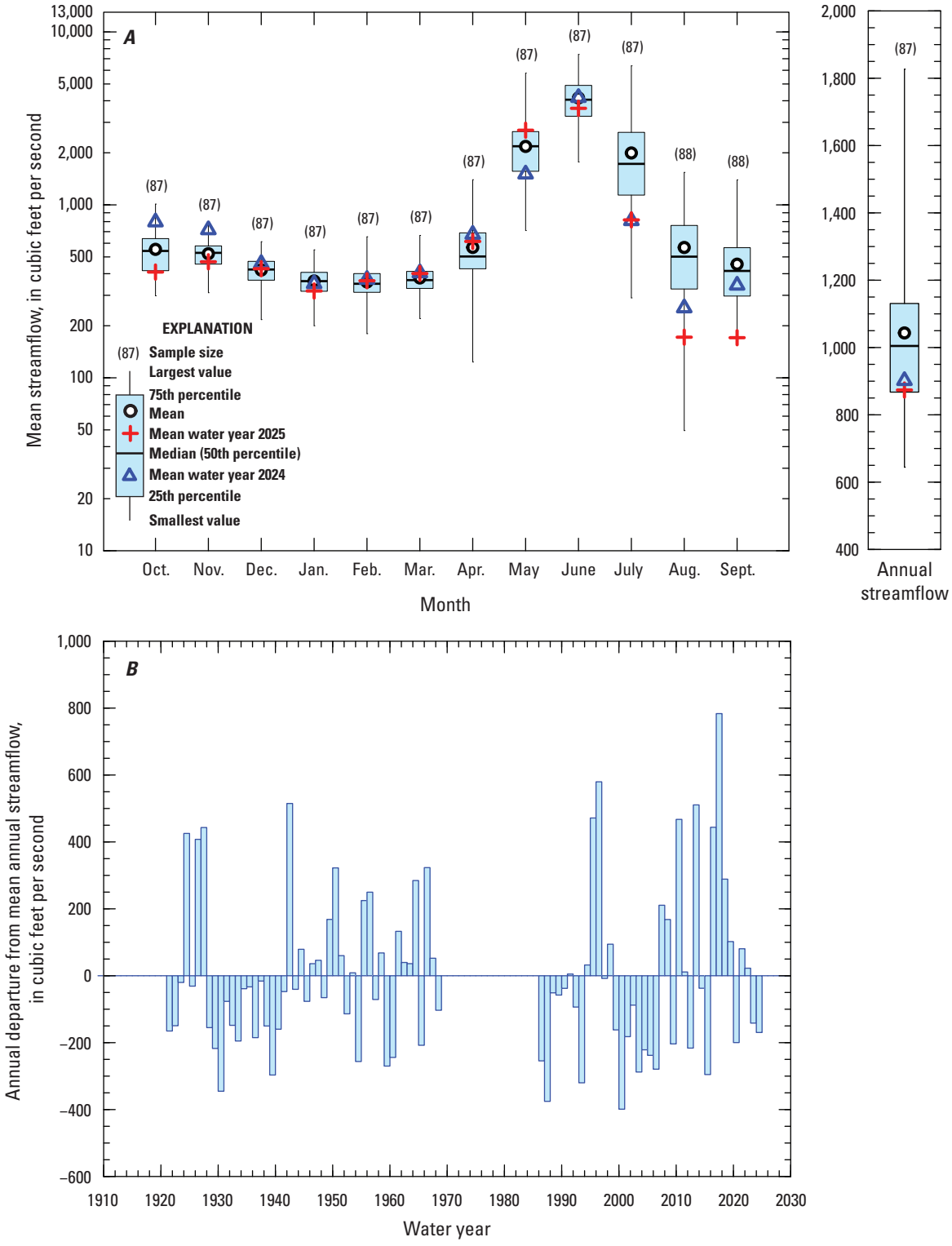


Figure 1. Streamflow data for Clarks Fork Yellowstone River at Edgar, Montana (06208500), minus diversions to White Horse Canal near Silesia, Mont. (06208790), water years 1921–2025. *A*, Boxplots showing statistical distribution of monthly and annual streamflow. *B*, Annual departure from the mean annual streamflow.

06294000 Little Bighorn River near Hardin, Montana

LOCATION.—Lat 45°44′08.47″, long 107°33′26.89″ referenced to North American Datum of 1983, in SE¼ NE¼NE¼ sec. 19, T. 1 S., R. 34 E., Big Horn County, Hydrologic Unit 10080016, on left bank 50 ft downstream from bridge on Sarpy Road, 0.2 mi upstream from terminal wasteway of Agency Canal, 0.6 mi upstream from mouth, and 2.3 mi east of Hardin.

DRAINAGE AREA.—1,294 mi^2.

PERIOD OF RECORD.—June 1953 to present.

REVISIONS HISTORY.—Water Data Report MT-86-1: 1978. Gage height and discharge data for the period Apr. 28 to June 19, 2017, were revised on Dec. 12, 2019, based on reanalysis of reference readings.

GAGE.—Water-stage recorder. Elevation of gage is 2,882.29 ft, referenced to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (levels by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers). Prior to October 7, 1953, nonrecording gage located at site 0.4 mi downstream. October 7, 1953, to May 6, 1963, water-stage recorder located at site 0.3 mi downstream. May 6, 1963, to November 6, 1963, nonrecording gage located at site 0.4 mi downstream. All locations had different elevations. November 7, 1963, to August 15, 1976, water-stage recorder located at site 35 ft downstream at present elevation. August 15, 1976, to September 30, 1979, water-stage recorders were located on each bank downstream from Sarpy Road Bridge and were used depending on control conditions.

REMARKS.—Flow partly regulated by Willow Creek Reservoir (capacity 23,000 acre-ft). Numerous diversions for irrigation occur upstream from station. Discharge values and summary statistics prior to October 2016 have the diversions of daily mean discharge to Agency Canal included. Daily values with Agency Canal included continue to be available in the [Adjusted for Agency Canal] parameter.

Table 4. Daily mean discharge for Little Bighorn River near Hardin, Montana (06294000), including diversions to Agency Canal, October 2024 through September 2025.

[Discharge is in cubic feet per second. Abbreviations: acre-ft, acre-feet; e, estimated; Max, maximum; Min, minimum. Symbol: --, no data]

Day	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1	97.1	162	e132	e116	e107	e658	252	790	1090	338	153	87
2	94.3	155	e133	e104	e101	e662	254	714	1110	277	170	89.8
3	99.3	155	e130	e99.9	e101	e632	261	544	1150	264	161	87.7
4	116	153	e138	e101	e97	e571	274	461	1150	262	159	78.9
5	98.8	151	e142	e100	e99.4	e461	272	415	1030	258	161	76.3
6	105	157	e144	e97.9	e116	e440	255	446	944	249	171	71.5
7	107	156	e139	e100	e119	e362	237	520	886	232	161	70.5
8	105	159	e134	e101	e112	e252	228	558	853	220	154	75.8
9	109	154	e130	e98.9	e112	e246	217	489	825	212	142	82.9
10	110	156	e128	e96	e101	263	210	434	817	198	140	83.9
11	109	158	e124	e94	e82.4	254	206	451	800	186	140	83.4
12	116	155	e122	e90.2	e87	248	205	530	803	175	136	84.8
13	117	154	e130	e87	e104	250	210	655	836	170	135	92.3
14	117	154	e132	e87	e118	242	212	835	850	167	126	98.3
15	119	149	e137	e90.2	e122	232	213	1,010	837	163	114	102
16	125	150	e134	e93.3	e117	225	210	1,070	812	175	107	109
17	123	150	e130	e96.7	e116	210	235	932	778	206	113	118
18	136	152	e126	e85.7	e105	208	240	780	770	242	112	125
19	162	153	e125	e65.3	e118	234	268	988	716	213	110	122
20	162	e145	e120	e63.4	e138	261	274	1,970	630	195	112	118
21	149	e134	e127	e68.6	e162	242	272	2,510	576	181	102	114
22	148	137	e122	e80.1	e203	239	281	2,290	555	160	95.7	106
23	150	152	e115	e89.2	e246	261	268	1,440	540	155	91.1	102
24	150	e134	e116	e92.6	e288	270	258	1,220	554	156	86.8	104
25	146	e116	e121	e83.5	e327	259	256	1,120	507	156	83.3	109
26	152	e132	e120	e85	e406	326	257	1,030	473	153	80.5	106
27	146	e150	e122	e104	e526	347	253	961	431	148	72.5	100
28	147	e165	e124	e107	e625	291	287	947	407	140	72.2	98.6
29	149	e143	e120	e107	NA	264	544	990	391	143	84.6	97.5
30	153	e131	e122	e107	NA	255	1,080	1,050	368	142	87.1	96.5
31	163	NA	e119	e104	NA	249	NA	1,070	NA	137	82.2	NA
Total	3,980	4,472	3,958	2,896	4,956	9,914	8,489	29,220	22,489	6,073	3,715	2,891
Mean	128	149	128	93.4	177	320	283	943	750	196	120	96.4
Max	163	165	144	116	625	662	1,080	2,510	1,150	338	171	125
Min	94.3	116	115	63.4	82.4	208	205	415	368	137	72.2	70.5
Acre-ft	7,895	8,870	7,851	5,743	9,830	19,664	16,838	57,957	44,606	12,046	7,369	5,734

Summary statistics

	Water year 2025	Water years 1954–2025
Annual total	103,052	--
Annual mean	282	277
Annual runoff (acre-ft)	204,402	200,542

06294500 Bighorn River above Tullock Creek, near Bighorn, Montana

LOCATION.—Lat 46°07′28.10″, long 107°28′07.65″ referenced to North American Datum of 1983, in SE¼SE¼NE¼ sec. 3, T. 4 N., R. 34 E., Treasure County, Hydrologic Unit 10080015, on right bank 1.9 mi upstream from Tullock Creek, 3.6 mi southwest of Bighorn, 4.5 mi southeast of Custer, and at river mile 3.0.

DRAINAGE AREA.—22,417 mi^2. Drainage area from Wyoming StreamStats application creation using National Hydrography Dataset-High Resolution (Beta Edition) 10-meter 3D Elevation Program Digital Elevation Model data dated March 21, 2016, and Watershed Boundary Dataset dated September 20, 2018, using Albers Projection, central meridian −96.0, first standard parallel 29.5, second standard parallel 45.5, latitude of origin 23.0, North American Datum of 1983. Drainage area at site used October 7, 1955, to September 30, 1981, with 22,885 mi^2.

PERIOD OF RECORD.—October 1981 to present. Previously published as “06294700 Bighorn River at Bighorn, MT” from 1956–81, and as “06294700 Bighorn River near Custer” from 1945–55. Streamflows are equivalent at all sites.

REVISIONS HISOTRY.—Wyoming StreamStats 2025: Drainage area.

GAGE.—Water-stage recorder. Datum of gage is 2,702.36 ft, referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88), from GNSS survey. Prior to January 29, 2025, the elevation of gage was reported as 2,700 ft above NAVD88. May 11, 1945, to December 6, 1945, nonrecording gage, and December 7, 1945, to October 6, 1955, water-stage recorder located 1.7 mi upstream at different elevation. October 7, 1955, to September 30, 1981, located at site 2.3 mi downstream at different elevation.

REMARKS.—Streamflow has been regulated by Bighorn Lake since November 1965, with Yellowtail dam being completed in 1967. Major regulation prior to November 1965 occurred from 14 reservoirs in Wyoming and one in Montana. Diversion for irrigation occurs upstream from the station.

Table 5. Daily mean discharge for the Bighorn River above Tullock Creek near Bighorn, Montana (06294500), October 2024 through September 2025.

[Discharge is in cubic feet per second. Abbreviations: acre-ft, acre-feet; e, estimated; Max, maximum; Min, minimum. Symbol: --, no data]

Day	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1	2,500	2,730	2,890	2,500	2,640	e3310	2,620	3,340	4,470	2,650	2,570	2,080
2	2,630	2,750	2,910	2,500	2,680	e3240	2,650	3,110	4,530	2,580	2,670	2,050
3	2,580	2,770	2,870	2,540	2,700	3,180	2,660	2,800	4,610	2,490	2,740	2,090
4	2,600	2,780	2,780	2,570	e2,540	3,170	2,690	2,600	4,750	2,530	2,740	2,170
5	2,590	2,770	2,800	e2,570	e2,560	2,990	2,660	2,510	4,540	2,600	2,760	2,190
6	2,580	2,740	2,830	2,560	e2,620	2,900	2,630	2,540	4,200	2,620	2,670	2,290
7	2,580	2,740	2,870	2,600	e2,600	2,800	2,580	2,630	3,870	2,560	2,620	2,240
8	2,540	2,760	2,920	2,610	e2,490	2,740	2,550	2,730	3,780	2,460	2,640	2,210
9	2,520	2,790	2,960	2,640	e2,640	2,710	2,530	2,600	3,760	2,380	2,580	2,220
10	2,470	2,820	2,840	2,640	e2,630	2,690	2,500	2,440	3,680	2,340	2,560	2,220
11	2,480	2,850	2,690	2,690	e2,640	2,680	2,400	2,440	3,630	2,320	2,500	2,230
12	2,490	2,870	2,720	2,730	e2,610	2,660	2,250	2,490	3,570	2,310	2,370	2,240
13	2,490	2,830	2,710	2,710	e2,570	2,650	2,260	2,620	3,460	2,290	2,200	2,250
14	2,500	2,680	2,730	2,650	e2,620	2,660	2,230	3,070	4,140	2,320	2,190	2,210
15	2,530	2,710	2,820	2,580	e2,680	2,630	2,310	3,680	3,800	2,290	2,150	2,160
16	2,540	2,740	2,800	2,620	e2,710	2,620	2,430	4,190	3,760	2,340	2,140	2,190
17	2,560	2,770	2,760	2,670	e2,720	2,630	2,520	4,000	3,960	2,470	2,170	2,410
18	2,610	2,800	2,550	e2,660	e2,690	2,620	2,320	3,790	3,520	2,510	2,160	2,320
19	2,610	2,800	2,590	e2,670	e2,730	2,670	2,430	4,380	3,360	2,480	2,110	2,290
20	2,650	2,710	2,590	e2,640	e2,750	2,680	2,650	7,390	3,120	2,450	2,080	2,220
21	2,650	2,750	2,620	e2,590	e2,680	2,660	2,530	7,170	3,020	2,460	2,040	2,160
22	2,660	2,760	2,660	e2,650	e2,650	2,650	2,410	6,780	3,080	2,410	2,050	2,130
23	2,680	2,810	2,640	2,660	e2,650	2,650	2,330	5,280	3,120	2,500	2,060	2,170
24	2,690	2,840	2,630	2,620	e2,890	2,660	2,310	4,800	3,050	2,520	2,020	2,090
25	2,710	2,810	2,580	2,550	e3,960	2,640	2,340	4,630	2,980	2,480	2,050	2,110
26	2,610	2,770	2,570	e2,540	e4,040	2,640	2,300	4,460	2,920	2,490	2,020	2,230
27	2,630	2,790	2,600	e2,600	e3,560	2,700	2,280	4,350	2,860	2,530	2,010	2,170
28	2,650	2,830	2,600	2,590	e3,440	2,660	2,350	4,270	2,820	2,510	2,040	2,150
29	2,670	2,800	2,620	2,570	NA	2,630	2,890	4,270	2,820	2,590	2,110	2,120
30	2,690	2,840	2,670	2,590	NA	2,630	3,620	4,370	2,770	2,410	2,140	2,160
31	2,710	NA	2,600	2,620	NA	2,620	NA	4,470	NA	2,550	2,100	NA
Total	80,400	83,410	84,420	80,930	78,690	85,370	75,230	120,200	107,950	76,440	71,260	65,770
Mean	2,594	2,780	2,723	2,611	2,810	2,754	2,508	3,877	3,598	2,466	2,299	2,192
Max	2,710	2,870	2,960	2,730	4,040	3,310	3,620	7,390	4,750	2,650	2,760	2,410
Min	2,470	2,680	2,550	2,500	2,490	2,620	2,230	2,440	2,770	2,290	2,010	2,050
Acre-ft	159,471	165,441	167,445	160,522	156,079	169,329	149,217	238,413	214,116	151,617	141,342	130,453

Summary statistics

	Water year 2025	Water years 1967–2025
Annual total	1,010,070	--
Annual mean	2,767	3,745
Annual runoff (acre-ft)	2,003,445	2,711,296

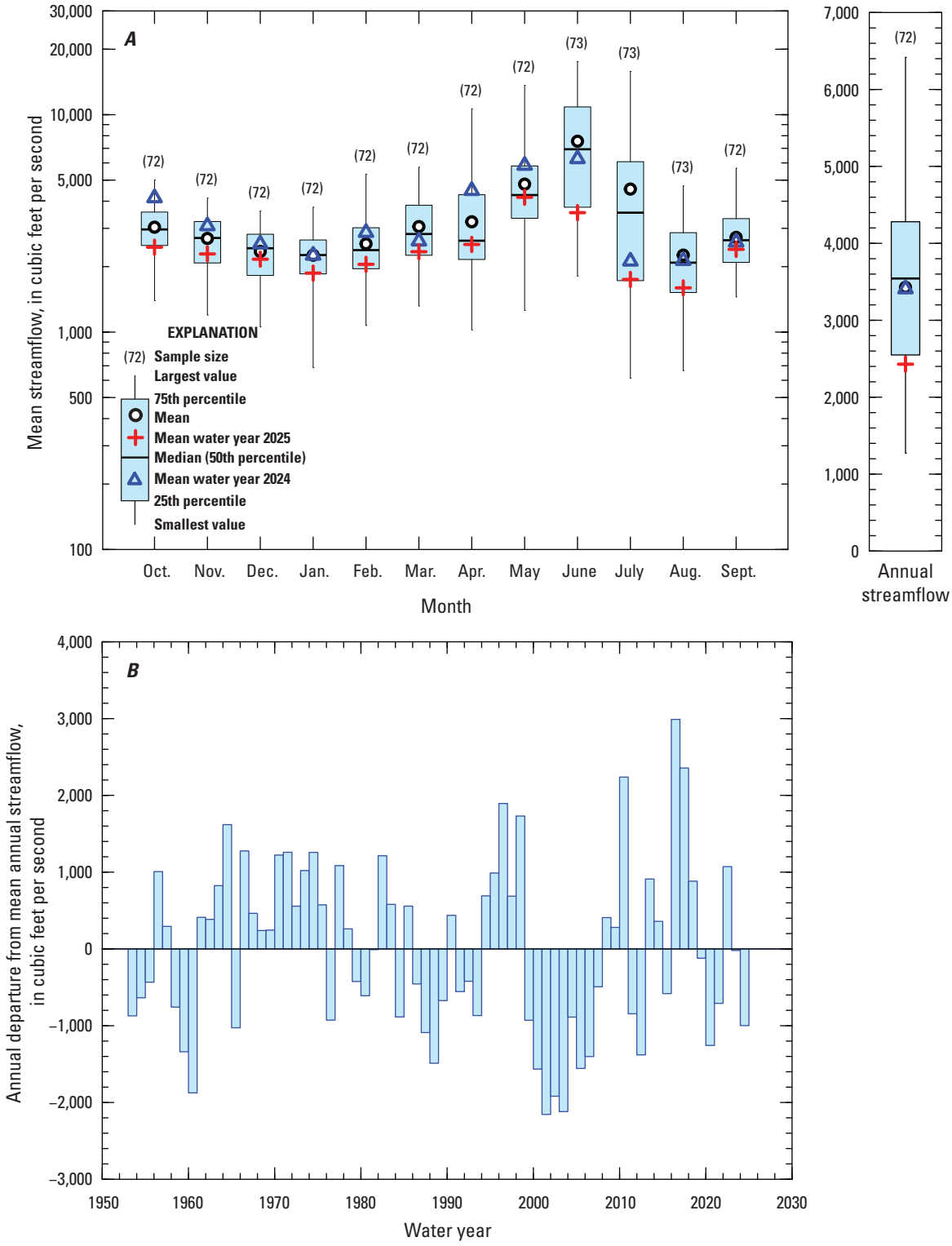


Figure 2. Adjusted streamflow data for Bighorn River above Tullock Creek, near Bighorn, Montana (06294500); minus Little Bighorn River near Hardin, Mont. (06294000) including Agency Canal; and adjusted for change in contents in Bighorn Lake, water years 1954–2025. *A*, Boxplots showing statistical distribution of monthly and annual streamflow. *B*, Annual departure from the mean annual streamflow.

06308500 Tongue River at Miles City, Montana

LOCATION.—Lat 46°23′04.54″, long 105°50′43.88″ referenced to North American Datum of 1983, in SE¼SE¼SE¼ sec. 4, T. 7 N., R. 47 E., Custer County, Hydrologic Unit 10090102, on right bank 1.5 mi south of Miles City and at river mile 2.3.

DRAINAGE AREA.—5,405 mi^2. Drainage area from Wyoming StreamStats application creation using National Hydrography Dataset-High Resolution (Beta Edition) 10-meter 3D Elevation Program Digital Elevation Model data dated March 21, 2016, and Watershed Boundary Dataset dated September 20, 2018, using Albers Projection, central meridian −96.0, first standard parallel 29.5, second standard parallel 45.5, latitude of origin 23.0, North American Datum of 1983. Drainage area at site used prior to October 4, 1995, with 5,379 mi^2.

PERIOD OF RECORD.—April 1938 to April 1942, April 1946 to present. Published as "near Miles City" April 1938 to April 1942. Not equivalent to records published as "near Miles City" May 1929 to October 1932. April 1946 to October 4, 1995, at site 2.5 mi upstream from present site. Streamflows at present site are equivalent with streamflows at site operated from 1946. Monthly discharge only for some periods, published in Water Supply Paper (WSP) 1309.

REVISED RECORDS.—WSP 1729: Drainage area. 2011 (Extremes for Period of Daily Record--Specific Conductance: maximum daily value). Wyoming StreamStats 2025: Drainage area.

GAGE.—Water-stage recorder. Elevation of gage is 2,351.40 ft, referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988. April 1938 to April 1942, nonrecording gage located at site 8 mi upstream from present site at different elevation. April 1946 to September 30, 1963, located at elevation 1.00 ft higher than present site. October 4, 1995, gage was moved 2.5 mi downstream.

REMARKS.—Streamflow is regulated by Tongue River Reservoir (station 06307000) and many small reservoirs in Wyoming. Diversions for irrigation also occur upstream from the station.

Table 6. Daily mean discharge for Tongue River at Miles City, Montana (06308500), October 2024 through September 2025.

[Discharge is in cubic feet per second. Abbreviations: acre-ft, acre-feet; e, estimated; Max, maximum; Min, minimum. Symbol: --, no data]

Day	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1	188	192	e157	e132	e134	e326	180	303	1,100	301	445	106
2	183	194	e129	e131	e124	e308	215	335	1,240	241	325	131
3	195	193	e140	e129	e113	e292	218	313	1,360	204	266	115
4	192	192	e141	e125	e113	e270	218	327	1,440	174	295	101
5	183	192	e160	e123	e113	e261	215	351	1,580	168	259	105
6	176	198	e179	e124	e114	e235	213	387	1,730	203	249	129
7	169	197	e167	e130	e109	e226	209	420	1,670	249	484	134
8	168	196	e160	e140	e106	e224	207	472	1,510	390	422	138
9	165	195	e156	e150	e112	e223	207	497	1,370	243	354	135
10	157	195	e144	e158	e106	e192	206	534	1,240	196	303	132
11	159	195	e123	e165	e105	e196	204	559	1,120	164	237	150
12	130	193	e131	e172	e129	e193	204	545	1,120	146	133	150
13	124	193	e130	e171	e141	e193	204	494	1,130	141	107	147
14	132	193	e130	e168	e161	e193	207	488	1,100	140	87.7	141
15	135	192	e128	e168	e149	e184	206	550	1,120	162	69.5	146
16	139	196	e123	e168	e140	e172	203	613	1,380	239	76	158
17	184	198	e122	e164	e130	e171	215	621	1,430	264	74.9	154
18	195	200	e122	e129	e121	e169	226	662	1,240	278	72.1	155
19	196	200	e114	e88.1	e124	e169	221	755	1,140	243	80.9	168
20	196	e153	e111	e71.9	e149	166	216	869	1,030	203	79.8	180
21	198	e142	e120	e97.7	e169	164	219	941	954	190	76.5	186
22	194	e167	e126	e128	e165	160	215	847	901	277	68	183
23	192	e185	e129	e133	e180	158	212	890	846	327	83.9	178
24	193	e170	e132	e140	e182	153	211	915	743	335	96.4	140
25	193	e94.4	e133	e141	e235	153	213	988	659	311	91.8	160
26	195	e80.5	e133	e108	e553	149	209	992	575	241	86.6	181
27	192	e99.8	e133	e147	e859	146	212	955	505	198	76.4	162
28	189	e79.6	e133	e135	e473	142	225	965	453	201	70.8	155
29	192	e124	e133	e133	NA	139	320	956	400	222	93.9	151
30	191	e128	e133	e133	NA	141	303	946	349	684	120	149
31	192	NA	e133	e133	NA	142	NA	932	NA	464	100	NA
Total	5,487	5,127	4,205	4,236	5,309	6,010	6,533	20,422	32,435	7,799	5,384	4,420
Mean	177	171	136	137	190	194	218	659	1,081	252	174	147
Max	198	200	179	172	859	326	320	992	1,730	684	484	186
Min	124	79.6	111	71.9	105	139	180	303	349	140	68	101
Acre-ft	10,883	10,170	8,340	8,401	10,530	11,921	12,958	40,506	64,334	15,469	10,679	8,767

Summary statistics

	Water year 2025	Water years 1938–2025*
Annual total	107,367	--
Annual mean	294	409
Annual runoff (acre-ft)	212,960	296,107

*During periods of operation (water years 1938 to April 1942, April 1946 to current year [2025]).

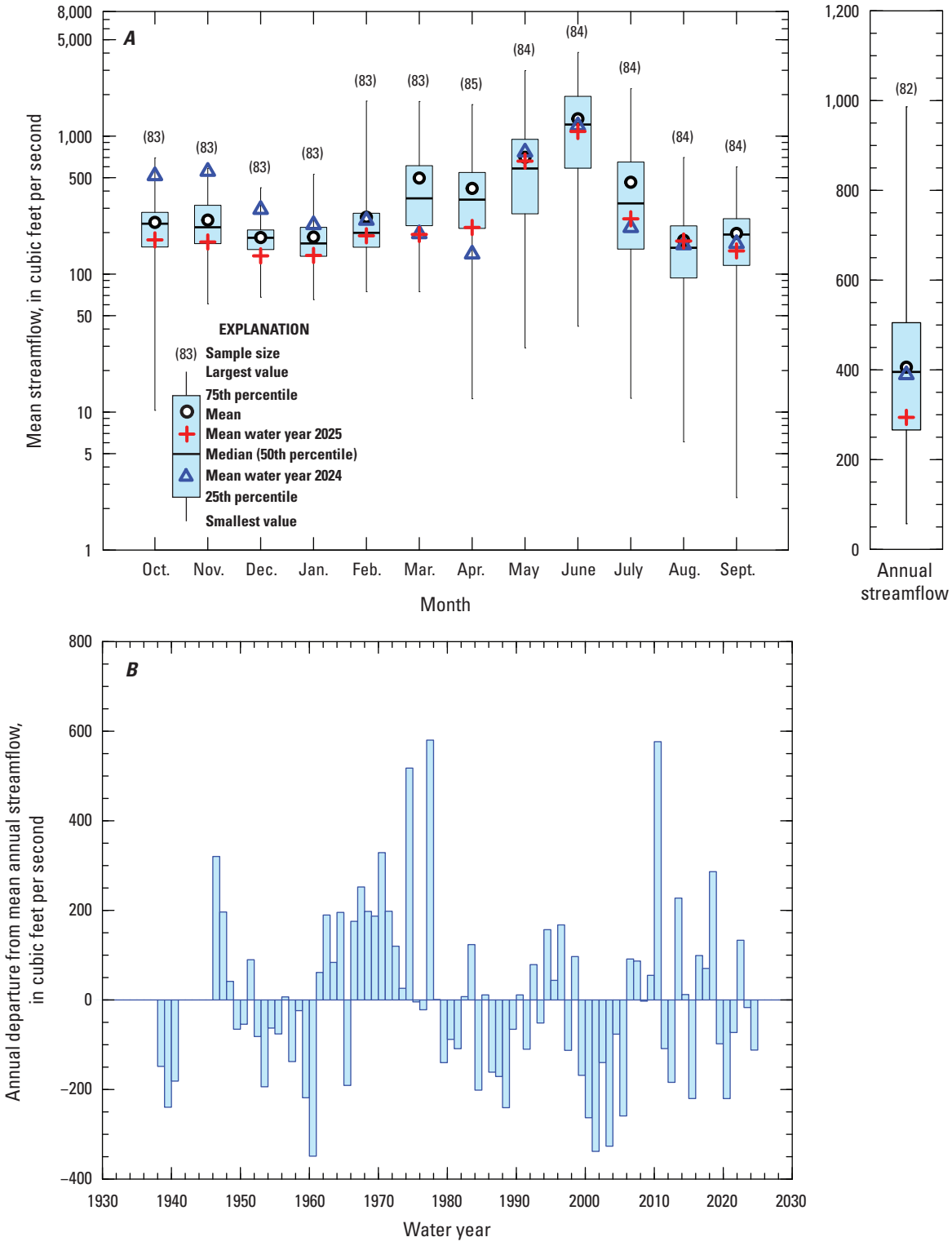


Figure 3. Streamflow data for Tongue River at Miles City, Montana (06308500), water years 1938–2025. *A*, Boxplots showing statistical distribution of monthly and annual streamflow. *B*, Annual departure from the mean annual streamflow.

06326500 Powder River near Locate, Montana

LOCATION.—Lat 46°25′45.97″, long 105°18′37.19″ referenced to North American Datum of 1983, in SW¼SW¼SE¼ sec. 23, T. 8 N., R. 51 E., Custer County, Hydrologic Unit 10090209, on left bank at downstream side of bridge on U.S. Highway 12, 0.1 mi west of Locate, 25 mi east of Miles City, and at river mile 29.4.

DRAINAGE AREA.—13,060 mi^2.

PERIOD OF RECORD.—March 1938 to present.

REVISED RECORDS.—Water Supply Paper (WSP) 926: 1939. WSP 1309: 1938–39, maximum discharge. WSP 1729: Drainage area. Water Data Report MT–04–1: Drainage area.

GAGE.—Water-stage recorder. Elevation of gage is 2,384.79 ft, referenced to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (levels by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers). Prior to July 11, 1947, nonrecording gage located at bridge 1.5 mi upstream, and July 11, 1947, to September 30, 1965, water-stage recorder located at site near upstream bridge at different elevation. October 1, 1965, to October 4, 1966, nonrecording gage, and October 5, 1966, to March 21, 1978, water-stage recorder located at present site and elevation. March 22, 1978, to April 23, 1981, water-stage recorder located 1.5 mi upstream at different elevation, April 24 to August 20, 1981, water-stage recorder located at present site and elevation, and August 21, 1981, to September 30, 1981, water-stage recorder located 1.5 mi upstream at different elevation. October 1, 1981, to April 5, 1995, water-stage recorder located at site 1.5 mi downstream at different elevation. April 7, 1995, to present, water-stage recorders located on each bank and each used depending on control conditions.

REMARKS.—Some regulation occurs by three reservoirs in Wyoming. Diversions for irrigation occur upstream from station.

Table 7. Daily mean discharge for Powder River near Locate, Montana (06326500), October 2024 through September 2025.

[Discharge is in cubic feet per second. Abbreviations: acre-ft, acre-feet; e, estimated; Max, maximum; Min, minimum. Symbol: --, no data]

Day	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1	e53.6	143	e125	e208	e213	e613	368	e496	353	254	366	17.5
2	e58.4	149	e137	e207	e213	503	e361	492	372	e187	315	15.8
3	57.1	e155	e142	e200	e211	471	e376	447	480	e143	241	21.9
4	e57.7	e164	e139	e186	e208	490	e374	e390	463	e107	161	e36.7
5	e59.3	e181	e146	e186	e208	359	e373	e357	657	e106	e190	e29.1
6	61.9	e189	e153	e192	e210	421	370	363	653	e129	202	35.3
7	64.7	e191	e157	e199	e216	438	362	374	662	e94.1	e517	55.9
8	63	193	e158	e197	e215	509	e349	396	647	70.4	e614	e61
9	62.2	203	e160	e187	e213	704	e340	386	601	e49.1	405	60
10	e60.6	e208	e161	e204	e209	872	e333	400	593	e37.2	329	e48.7
11	e52.8	205	e166	e204	e206	745	329	e395	e557	e30.9	e280	e37.9
12	e57.6	e201	e169	e192	e203	702	313	e421	570	e26.7	243	48.6
13	59.8	203	e172	e182	e203	605	e292	344	758	e22.1	e206	57.2
14	e58.7	e206	e178	e193	e203	741	e291	356	750	26.7	e171	48
15	49.9	208	e182	e194	e204	766	e283	360	853	39.2	e139	e35.9
16	44.2	e217	e185	e190	e205	748	e270	324	2140	e57.8	119	49.7
17	e51.6	231	e189	e203	e209	e650	e269	472	1260	e55.3	e105	65.6
18	59.6	e238	e197	e203	e219	579	e265	508	e963	58.1	e102	e58.7
19	67.2	e235	e201	e197	e233	546	267	603	839	e66.6	e92.2	54.9
20	74.6	221	e201	e204	e240	e503	e270	663	803	83.3	e86.2	55.7
21	e84.6	227	e200	e225	e254	e473	e266	591	731	e270	e73	64.5
22	e89.9	251	e200	e215	e266	454	e261	550	635	338	e66.5	e67.7
23	95.4	248	e199	e211	e324	449	260	517	581	131	e58.4	67.7
24	e101	268	e195	e211	e964	e442	260	603	503	78.8	49.4	68.8
25	e107	e148	e192	e211	e1,730	411	257	477	437	e50.4	39.4	e68.3
26	e117	e74.1	e191	e211	E,1530	398	253	410	572	e60	34.7	e69.2
27	122	e72.2	e194	e211	e1,190	393	e255	517	432	e59.7	e34.8	e67.9
28	e126	e108	e200	e211	e784	e374	e401	536	393	e52.5	e31.1	e65.2
29	e129	e110	e203	e213	NA	363	1110	466	e347	88.1	28.7	e60.3
30	131	e113	e208	e213	NA	364	e618	e410	310	142	e25.6	e56.9
31	137	NA	e208	e213	NA	370	NA	408	NA	331	e22.4	NA
Total	2,414	5,560	5,508	6,273	11,283	16,456	10,396	14,032	19,915	3,245	5,347	1,551
Mean	77.9	185	178	202	403	531	347	453	664	105	172	51.7
Max	137	268	208	225	1,730	872	1,110	663	2,140	338	614	69.2
Min	44.2	72.2	125	182	203	359	253	324	310	22.1	22.4	15.8
Acre-ft	4,789	11,029	10,925	12,442	22,379	32,640	20,620	27,832	39,501	6,436	10,606	3,076

Summary statistics

	Water year 2025	Water years 1939–2025
Annual total	101,981	--
Annual mean	279	562
Annual runoff (acre-ft)	202,276	406,875

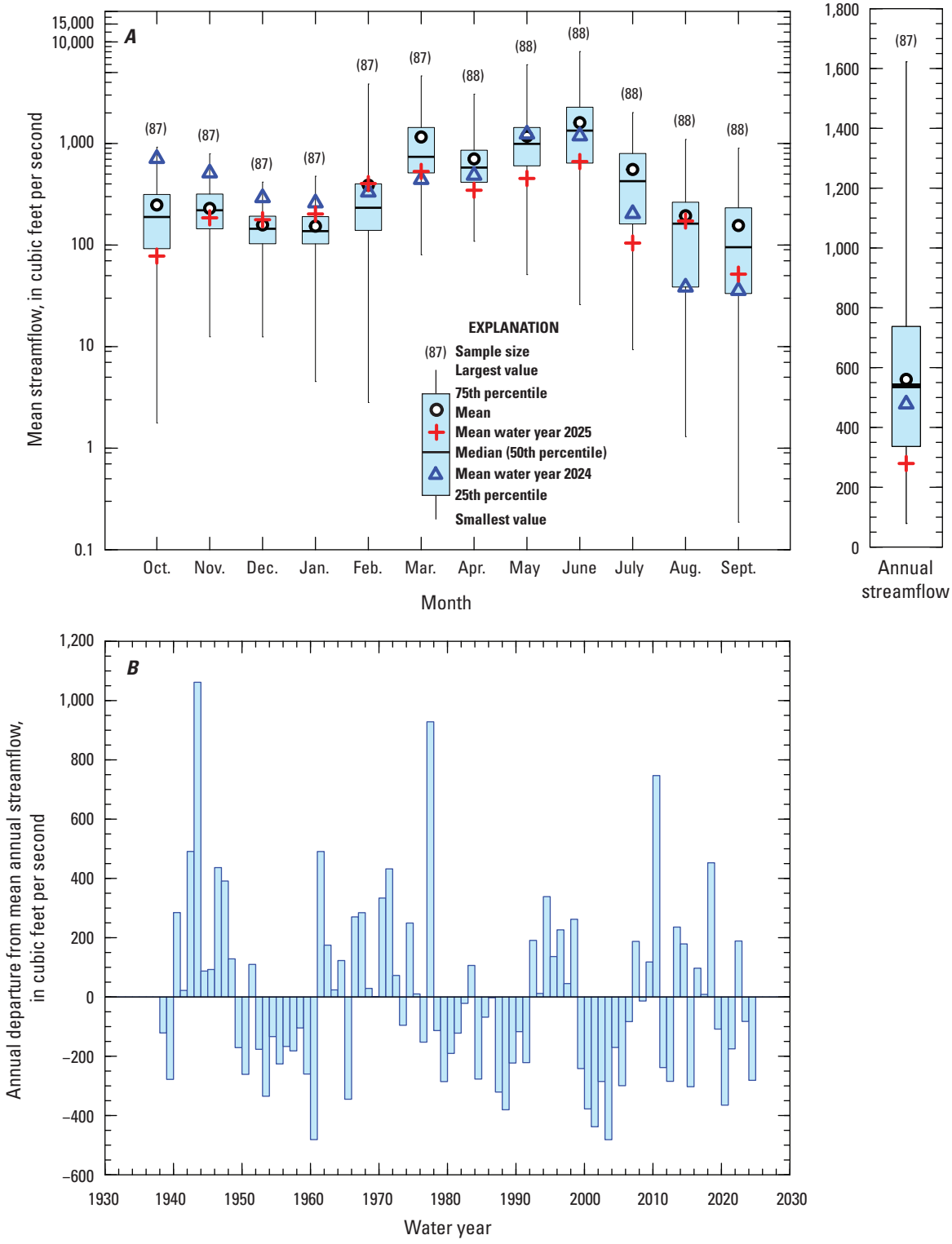


Figure 4. Streamflow data for Powder River near Locate, Montana (06326500), water years 1939–2025. *A*, Boxplots showing statistical distribution of monthly and annual streamflow. *B*, Annual departure from the mean annual streamflow.

Month-End Contents for Yellowstone River Compact Reservoirs Completed after January 1, 1950

Boysen Reservoir, Wyoming - U.S Bureau of Reclamation

LOCATION.—Lat 43°25′00″, long 108°10′37″ referenced to North American Datum of 1927, in NW¼NW¼ sec. 16, T. 5 N., R. 6 E., Fremont County, Hydrologic Unit 10080005, at dam on Wind River and 13 mi north of Shoshoni, Wyoming.

DRAINAGE AREA.—7,700 mi².

PERIOD OF RECORD.—October 1952 to present.

GAGE.—Water-stage recorder. Datum of gage is reported by the U.S Bureau of Reclamation based on local construction elevation datum unless reported otherwise.

RESERVOIR INFORMATION.—Reservoir is formed by rock-fill dam completed in October 1951. Storage began October 11, 1951. The elevation at the top of dead pool (outlet and penstock invert pipe) is 4,657.00 ft and contents of 40,080 acre-ft. The elevation at the top of inactive contents is 4,685.00 ft and contents 219,200 acre-ft. The elevation of the top of the joint-use pool (top of spillway gate) is 4,725.00 ft and contents of 741,594 acre-ft. Top of exclusive flood control is 4,732.20 ft and contents of 892,226 acre-ft. Top of crest of dam is at elevation 4,758.00 ft.

DATA.—Available from the Bureau of Reclamation. https://www.usbr.gov/gp-bin/arcweb_boyr.pl

Table 8. Month-end contents for Boysen Reservoir, Wyoming.

[Data provided by the Bureau of Reclamation. Symbol: --, no data]

Date	Water-surface elevation, in feet	Contents, in acre-feet	Change in contents, in acre-feet
September 30, 2024	4,715.48	573,120	--
October 31	4,713.79	547,309	-25,811
November 30	4,713.57	544,014	-3,295
December 31	4,713.06	536,443	-7,571
January 31, 2025	4,711.93	519,951	-16,492
February 28	4,711.39	512,208	-7,743
March 31	4,711.89	519,374	7,166
April 30	4,711.53	514,202	-5,172
May 31	4,713.71	546,109	31,907
June 30	4,718.42	620,980	74,871
July 31	4,716.38	587,344	-33,636
August 31	4,713.95	549,716	-37,628
September 30, 2025	4,711.57	514,774	-34,942
2025 water year	--	--	-58,346

Anchor Reservoir, Wyoming - U.S Bureau of Reclamation

LOCATION.—Lat 43°39′50″, long 108°49′27″ referenced to North American Datum of 1927, in sec. 26, T. 43 N., R. 100 W., Hot Springs County, Hydrologic Unit 10080007, at dam on South Fork Owl Creek, 2 mi downstream from Middle Fork, 3 mi southeast of Anchor, and 32 mi west of Thermopolis, Wyoming.

DRAINAGE AREA.—131 mi^2.

PERIOD OF RECORD.—November 1960 to present.

GAGE.—Water-stage recorder. Datum of gage is reported by the U.S Bureau of Reclamation based on local construction elevation datum unless reported otherwise.

RESERVOIR INFORMATION.—Reservoir is formed by concrete-arch dam completed in 1960. The elevation of the dead/inactive pool (invert of river outlet) is 6,343.75 ft and contents of 66 acre-ft. The top of the active conservation pool is 6,441.0 ft and contents of 17,228 acre-ft. Anchor Reservoir was built to have contents of 17,228 acre-ft, but sinkholes within the area contained by the dam prevent filling the reservoir to the designed volume. A dike constructed within the reservoir prevents water from entering the sinkholes and operationally limits storage to 7,369 acre-ft.

DATA.—Available from the Bureau of Reclamation. https://www.usbr.gov/gp-bin/arcweb_ancr.pl

Table 9. Month-end contents for Anchor Reservoir, Wyoming.

[Data provided by the Bureau of Reclamation. Symbol: --, no data]

Date	Water-surface elevation, in feet	Contents, in acre-feet	Change in contents, in acre-feet
September 30, 2024	6,361.58	475.20	--
October 31	6,361.86	486.39	11.19
November 30	6,362.17	499.31	12.92
December 31	6,361.74	481.61	-17.70
January 31, 2025	6,362.90	530.70	49.09
February 28	6,362.92	531.56	0.86
March 31	6,365.89	673.40	141.84
April 30	6,365.19	637.69	-35.71
May 31	6,390.39	2,933.23	2,295.54
June 30	6,397.41	4,012.32	1,079.09
July 31	6,364.50	604.00	-3,408.32
August 31	6,362.75	524.25	-79.75
September 30, 2025	6,362.89	530.28	6.03
2025 water year	--	--	55.08

Bighorn Lake near St. Xavier, Montana - Bureau of Reclamation

LOCATION.—Lat 45°18′27″, long 107°57′26″ referenced to North American Datum of 1927, in SW¼SE¼ sec. 18, T. 6 S., R. 30 E., Big Horn County, Hydrologic Unit 10080010, in block 13 of Yellowtail Dam on Bighorn River, 1.3 mi upstream from Grapevine Creek, 15.5 mi southwest of St. Xavier, and at river mile 86.6.

DRAINAGE AREA.—19,626 mi^2.

PERIOD OF RECORD.—November 1966 to present.

GAGE.—Water-stage recorder. Datum of gage is reported by the Bureau of Reclamation based on local construction elevation datum unless reported otherwise.

RESERVOIR INFORMATION.—Reservoir is formed by thin concrete-arch dam; construction began in 1961 and was completed in 1967. Storage began November 3, 1965. The elevation of the dead pool is 3,296.50 ft and contents of 18,355 acre-ft. The top of the inactive conservation pool is 3,547.00 ft and contents of 467,473 acre-ft. The elevation active conservation is 3,614.00 ft and contents of 778,317 acre-feet. The top of the joint use pool is 3,640.00 ft and contents of 1,011,052 acre-ft. The top of the exclusive flood pool (top of gates) is 3,657.00 ft and contents of 1,263,682 acre-ft.

DATA.—Available from the Bureau of Reclamation https://www.usbr.gov/gp-bin/arcweb_bhr.pl

Table 10. Month-end contents for Bighorn Lake, Montana.

[Data provided by the Bureau of Reclamation. Symbol: --, no data]

Date	Water-surface elevation, in feet	Contents, in acre-feet	Change in contents, in acre-feet
September 30, 2024	3,632.80	924,206	--
October 31	3,632.75	923,680	-526
November 30	3,630.69	903,248	-20,432
December 31	3,627.75	876,683	-26,565
January 31, 2025	3,622.82	836,717	-39,444
February 28	3,618.16	804,346	-32,371
March 31	3,617.29	798,700	-5,646
April 30	3,620.03	816,851	18,151
May 31	3,629.61	892,805	75,954
June 30	3,633.72	934,059	41,254
July 31	3,630.58	901,904	-32,155
August 31	3,626.57	866,123	-35,781
September 30, 2025	3,628.68	884,356	18,233
2025 water year	--	--	-39,850

Month-End Contents for Yellowstone River Compact Reservoirs Existing on January 1, 1950

The extent, if any, to which the use of reservoirs in this section may be subject to Compact allocations was not determined. As a matter of hydrologic interest, the month-end contents in acre-feet of four reservoirs are given in table 11. Three of the reservoirs (Bull Lake, Pilot Butte Reservoir, and Buffalo Bill Reservoir) are in the Bighorn River Basin, Wyoming, with contents data available from the Bureau of Reclamation. The height of the Buffalo Bill Dam was increased for power operations in 1992, which increased storage of the reservoir from 456,600 to 644,500 acre-ft (listed as 646,565 acre-ft by the Bureau of Reclamation). The Tongue River Reservoir in Montana is operated under the supervision of the Water Resources Division of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, who provides the water-level data and the reservoir-contents data. The spillway of Tongue River Dam was raised in 1999 which increased storage of Tongue River Reservoir from 68,040 to 79,071 acre-ft.

Table 11. Month-end contents for Yellowstone River Compact reservoirs existing on January 1, 1950.

Date	Contents, in acre-feet[1,2]			
	06224500 Bull Lake	Pilot Butte Reservoir	06281500 Buffalo Bill Reservoir	06307000 Tongue River Reservoir
September 30, 2024	32,292	11,754	400,840	44,851
October 31	34,388	27,358	368,975	43,827
November 30	35,427	28,610	372,039	44,031
December 31	35,678	28,418	374,344	45,289
January 31, 2025	35,717	28,401	372,299	44,917
February 28	36,181	28,276	374,165	47,129
March 31	37,172	28,335	386,073	58,940
April 30	40,705	28,870	381,966	63,107
May 31	65,683	25,571	465,639	79,475
June 30	105,567	27,334	592,747	76,660
July 31	86,632	23,445	530,217	65,520
August 31	30,298	14,279	437,828	50,463
September 30, 2025	30,971	13,440	359,829	40,544
Change in contents during water year 2025	-1,322	1,686	-41,011	-4,307

[1]Contents data provided by Bureau of Reclamation and Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation.

[2]Pre-compact water rights and post-compact water rights for these reservoirs are presented in table 12 (“Water-year-end contents for Yellowstone River Compact reservoirs or lakes.”)

Water-Year-End Contents for Yellowstone River Compact Reservoirs or Lakes

Water-year-end contents for additional reservoirs of interest to the Yellowstone River Compact are listed in table 12.

Table 12. Water-year-end contents for Yellowstone River Compact reservoirs or lakes.

[Contents are in acre-feet. Reservoirs or lakes are listed in alphabetical order by drainage basin. Symbol: --, no data or not available]

Reservoir or lake name	Pre-compact 1950 water right	Post-compact 1950 water right	Total permitted water right	Contents on Sept. 30, 2025	Contents on Sept. 30, 2024	Change in contents[1]
Clarks Fork Yellowstone River Basin						
Cooney Reservoir[2]	28,230	0	28,230	14,260	18,631	-4,371
Glacier Lake[2]	4,200	0	4,200	405	942	-537
Bighorn River Basin						
(Lake) Adelaide Reservoir[3]	1,449	3,315	4,764	605	849	-244
Anchor Reservoir[4,5]	0	9,252	9,252	530	475	55
Bighorn Lake[5]	0	1,116,000	1,116,000	884,356	924,206	-39,850
Boysen Reservoir[5]	757,851	0	757,851	514,774	573,120	-58,346
Buffalo Bill Reservoir[5]	456,640	187,940	644,580	359,829	400,840	-41,011
Bull Lake[5]	151,951	0	151,951	30,970	32,292	-1,322
Christina Reservoir[3]	3,860	0	3,860	1,278	0	1,278
Corral Reservoir[3]	0	1,027	1,027	340	354	-14
Diamond Creek Dike Reservoir[3]	0	18,378	18,378	18,300	1,800	16,500
Enterprise Reservoir[3]	1,494	204	1,698	0	35	-35
Fairview Extension Reservoir[3]	791	620	1,411	1,391	1,090	301
Greybull Valley Reservoir[3]	0	33,169	33,169	3,856	4,327	-471
Harrington Reservoir[3]	315	887	1,202	400	900	-500
Lake Cameahwait Reservoir[3]	0	6,683	6,683	6,683	6,683	0
Lake Creek Reservoir[3]	1,373	0	1,373	462	220	242
Lodge Grass Reservoir[6]	22,900	0	22,900	15,000	12,450	2,550
Lower Sunshine Reservoir[3]	0	58,748	58,748	13,397	30,571	-17,174
Newton Reservoir[3]	4,525	0	4,525	4,150	4,200	-50
Perkins and Kinney Reservoir[3]	1,202	0	1,202	670	715	-45
Pilot Butte Reservoir[5]	34,600	0	34,600	13,440	11,754	1,686
Sage Creek Reservoir[3]	440	2,345	2,785	2,130	2,400	-270
Shell Reservoir[3]	1,949	0	1,949	0	493	-493
Shoshone Lake Reservoir[3]	4,560	5,181	9,741	6,870	6,060	810
Upper Sunshine Reservoir[3]	52,988	0	52,988	15,688	29,233	-13,545
Teapot Reservoir[3]	1,578	0	1,578	0	0	0
Ten Sleep Reservoir[3]	3,509	0	3,509	3,509	3,509	0
Wiley Reservoir[3]	689	331	1,020	820	1,000	-180
Worthen Meadow Reservoir[3]	0	1,504	1,504	1,504	1,230	274

Table 12. Water-year-end contents for Yellowstone River Compact reservoirs or lakes.—Continued

[Contents are in acre-feet. Reservoirs or lakes are listed in alphabetical order by drainage basin. Symbol: --, no data or not available]

Reservoir or lake name	Pre-compact 1950 water right	Post-compact 1950 water right	Total permitted water right	Contents on Sept. 30, 2025	Contents on Sept. 30, 2024	Change in contents[1]
Powder River Basin						
Cloud Peak Reservoir[3]	3,398	173	3,571	398	340	58
Dull Knife Reservoir[3]	0	4,345	4,345	686	986	-300
Healy Reservoir[3,7]	0	5,140	5,140	2,920	3,156	-236
Kearney Lake Reservoir[3]	1,854	4,470	6,324	1,713	322	1,391
Lake DeSmet[3,8]	37,515	197,472	234,987	199,504	196,387	3,117
Muddy Guard Reservoirs[3,9]	0	2,336	2,336	1,086	1,109	-23
Posy No. 1 Reservoir[3]	0	1,537	1,537	622	811	-189
Tie Hack Reservoir	1,647	788	2,435	1,468	1,758	-290
Willow Park Reservoir[3]	4,457	0	4,457	722	1,166	-444
Tongue River Basin						
Big Horn Reservoir[3]	2,749	1,969	4,781	719	698	21
Dome Reservoirs[3,10]	1,843	188	2,031	871	979	-108
Park Reservoir[3]	7,347	3,015	10,362	4,023	3,238	785
Sawmill Lakes Reservoir[3]	0	1,275	1,275	621	769	-148
Tongue River Reservoir[2]	72,500	6,571	79,071	40,544	44,851	-4,307
Twin Lakes Reservoir[11]	1,180	2,232	3,412	2,488	2,345	143

[1]Change in contents is derived from subtracting the previous water year's contents from the current water year's contents.

[2]Reservoir managed and contents provided by the State of Montana.

[3]Private reservoir. Contents provided by the State of Wyoming.

[4]Anchor Reservoir was built to have a usable content of 17,410 acre-feet, but sinkholes and constructed dikes within the area contained by the dam prevent filling the reservoir to the designed volume. At present, only 9,252 acre-feet has been adjudicated with the remaining capacity having been eliminated from the permit.

[5]Reservoir managed and contents provided by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

[6]Lodge Grass Reservoir (Willow Creek Dam) managed and contents provided by Bureau of Indian Affairs.

[7]Reservoir managed and contents provided by the State of Wyoming.

[8]Reservoir managed by Johnson County, Wyoming and the State of Wyoming. Contents provided by the State of Wyoming.

[9]Data are combined contents of Muddy Guard No. 1 and Muddy Guard No. 2 Reservoirs.

[10]Data are combined contents of Dome Lake and Dome Lake No. 1 Reservoir.

[11]Data are combined contents of Twin Lakes No. 1 and Twin Lakes No. 2 Reservoirs.

Appendix 1. Rules and Regulations for Administration of the Yellowstone River Compact

A compact, known as the Yellowstone River Compact, between the States of Wyoming, Montana, and North Dakota, having become effective on October 30, 1951, upon approval of the Congress of the United States, which apportions the waters of certain interstate tributaries of the Yellowstone River which are available after the appropriative rights existing in the States of Wyoming and Montana on January 1, 1950 are supplied, and after appropriative rights to the use of necessary supplemental water are also supplied as specified in the Compact, is administered under the following rules and regulations subject to the provisions for amendment revision or abrogation as provided herein.

Article I. Collection of Water Records

A. It shall be the joint and equal responsibility of the members of the States of Wyoming and Montana to collect, cause to be collected, or otherwise furnish records of tributary streamflow at the points of measurement specified in Article V (B) of the Compact, or as near thereto as is physically or economically feasible or justified.

1. Clarks Fork

The gaging station known as Clarks Fork near Silesia, Montana and located in NWl/4 SEl/4 sec. 1, T. 4 S., R. 23 E., shall be the point of measurement for the Clarks Fork.

2. Bighorn River (exclusive of Little Bighorn River)

The gaging station known as the Bighorn River above Tullock Creek, near Bighorn, Montana, and located in SEl/4 SEl/4 NEl/4 sec. 3, T. 4 N., R. 34 E., shall temporarily be the designated point of measurement on that stream. The flow of the Little Bighorn River as measured at the gaging station near Hardin, Montana, and located in SEl/4 NEl/4 NEl/4 sec. 19, T. 1 S., R. 34 E., shall be considered the point of measurement for that stream, except that if or when satisfactory records are not available, the records for the nearest upstream station with practical corrections for intervening inflow or diversion shall be used.

3. Tongue River

The gaging station known as the Tongue River City, Montana, and located in NEl/4 NEl/4 SE1/4 sec. 23, T. 7 N., R. 47 E., shall temporarily be the point of measurement for that stream.

4. Powder River

The gaging station known as the Powder River near Locate, Montana, and located in NWl/4 SWl/4 sec. 14, T. 8 N., R. 51 E., shall temporarily be the designated point of measurement for that stream.

B. Records of total annual diversion in acre-feet above the points of measurement designated in the Compact for irrigation, municipal, and industrial uses developed after January 1, 1950, shall be furnished by the members of the Commission for their respective States, at such time as the Commission deems necessary for interstate administration as provided by the terms of the Compact. Providing that if it be acceptable to the Commission, reasonable estimates thereof may be substituted.

C. Annual records of the net change in storage in all reservoirs, not excluded under Article V (E) of the Compact, above the point of measurement specified in the Compact and completed after January 1, 1950, and the annual net change in reservoirs existing prior to January 1, 1950, which is used for irrigation, municipal, and industrial purposes developed after January 1, 1950, shall be the primary responsibility of the member of the Commission in whose State such works are located; providing such data are not furnished by Federal agencies under the provisions of Article III (D) of the Compact, or collected by the Commission.

Article II. Office and Officers

A. The office of the Commission shall be located at the office of the Chairman of the Commission.

B. The Chairman of the Commission shall be the Federal representative as provided in the Compact.

C. The Secretary of the Commission shall be as provided for in Article III of these rules.

D. The credentials of each member of the Commission shall be placed on file in the office of the Commission

Article III. Secretary

A. The Commission, subject to the approval of the Director of the United States Geological Survey, shall enter into cooperative agreements with the U.S. Geological Survey for such engineering and clerical services as may reasonably be necessary for the administration of the Compact. Said agreements shall provide that the Geological Survey shall:

1. Maintain and operate gaging stations at or near the points of measurement specified in Article V (A) of the Compact.
2. Assemble factual information on stream flow, diversion, and reservoir storage for the preparation of an annual report to the Governors of the signatory States.
3. Make such investigations and reports as may be requested by the Commission in aid of its administration of the Compact.

B. The Geological Survey shall act as Secretary to the Commission.

Article IV. Budget

A. At the annual meeting of each even-numbered year or prior thereto, the Commission shall adopt a budget for operation during the ensuing biennium beginning July first. Such budget shall set forth the total cost of construction, maintenance and operation of gaging stations, the cost of engineering and clerical aid, and other necessary expenses excepting the salaries and personal expenses of the Commissioners. On odd-numbered years revisions of the budget shall be considered.

B. It shall be the obligation of the Commissioners of the States of Montana and Wyoming to endeavor to secure from the Legislature of their respective States sufficient funds with which to meet the obligations of this Compact, except insofar as provided by the Federal government.

Article V. Meetings

An annual meeting of the Commission shall be held each November at some mutually agreeable point in the Yellowstone River Basin for consideration of the annual report for the water year ending the preceding September 30th, and for the transaction of such other business consistent with its authorrity; provided that by unanimous consent of the Commission the date and place of the annual meeting may be changed. Other meetings as may be deemed necessary shall be held at a time and place set by mutual agreement, for the transaction of any business consistent with its authority.

No action of the Commission shall be effective until approval by the Commissioners for the States of Wyoming and Montana.

Article VI. Amendments, Revisions and Abrogations

The Rules and Regulations of the Commission may be amended or revised by a unanimous vote at any meeting of the Commission.

Gary Fritz
Commissioner for Montana

George L. Christopulos
Commissioner for Wyoming

ATTESTED:

L. Grady Moore
Federal Representative

Adopted November 17, 1953
Amended December 16, 1986

Appendix 2. Rules for the Resolution of Disputes over the Administration of the Yellowstone River Compact

December 19. 1995

Section I. General Framework

According to Article III(F) of the Yellowstone River Compact.

"In case of the failure of the representatives of Wyoming and Montana to unanimously agree on any matter necessary to the proper administration of this compact. then the member selected by the director of the United States Geological Survey shall have the right to vote upon the matters in disagreement and such points of disagreement shall then be decided by a majority vote of the representatives of the states of Wyoming and Montana and said member selected by the director of the United States geological survey, each being entitled to one vote."

Section II. Purpose and Goal

A. The purpose of these rules is to clarify and more fully develop the dispute resolution process outlined in Section I.

B. The goal of the dispute resolution process outlined in these rules is to encourage joint problem solving and consensus building. It consists of three phases -- unassisted negotiation, facilitation, and voting.

C. Any agreement reached through this process is binding on Montana, Wyoming, and the United States Geological Survey (USGS).

D. Either state can initiate the dispute resolution process defined in Sections IV. V. and VI. and the other state is obligated to participate in good faith. The states agree that the issues pursued under this dispute resolution process shall be both substantive and require timely resolution.

Section III. Consensus

A. In the process of administering the Yellowstone River Compact. The representatives from Montana and Wyoming agree to seek consensus.

B. For purposes of this rule. consensus is defined as an agreement that is reached by identifying the interests of Montana and Wyoming and then building an integrative solution that maximizes the satisfaction of as many of the interests as possible. The process of seeking consensus does not involve voting. but a synthesis and blending of alternative solutions.

Section IV. Unassisted Negotiation

A. In all situations, the representatives from Montana and Wyoming shall first attempt to seek consensus through unassisted negotiation. The federal representative will not serve as chairperson in the unassisted negotiation process.

B. During a negotiation process, the representatives from Montana and Wyoming shall identify issues about which they differ, educate each other about their needs and interests, generate possible resolution options, and collaboratively seek a mutually acceptable solution.

C. To help facilitate negotiations. the representatives from Montana and Wyoming in cooperation with the USGS agree to share technical information and develop joint databases. Other data sources may also be used.

D. The USGS shall serve as technical advisor in the two-state negotiations.

Section V. Facilitation

A. If the representatives from Montana and Wyoming are not able to reach consensus through unassisted negotiation, they shall each identify, articulate, and exchange, in writing, the unresolved Issues.

B. The representatives from Montana and Wyoming shall then jointly appoint a facilitator to assist in resolving the outstanding dispute. If the representatives from Montana and Wyoming cannot identify a mutually acceptable facilitator, the representative appointed by the USGS shall appoint a Facilitator.

C. A facilitator, for purposes of this rule. is defined as a neutral third party that shall help the representatives from Montana and Wyoming communicate, negotiate, and reach agreements voluntarily. The facilitator is not empowered to vote or render a decision.

D. The facilitator shall assist the representatives from Montana and Wyoming in developing appropriate ground rules for each facilitated session including establishing a deadline for completion of the facilitation process, setting an appropriate agenda, identifying issues, collecting and analyzing technical information, developing options, packaging agreements. and preparing a written agreement. The facilitator reserves the right to meet privately with each representative during the facilitation process.

Section VI. Voting

A. If, and only if, the representatives from Montana and Wyoming are unable to reach consensus with the assistance of a facilitator. then a dispute may be settled by voting.

B. The representatives from Montana and Wyoming. along with the representative appointed by the director of the USGS, are each entitled to one vote.

C. If the USGS representative does not vote in accordance with Article Ill, then the director of the USGS will select. with concurrence from Wyoming and Montana, a neutral third party to vote.

D. If the representative appointed by the director of the USGS is not involved in the steps outlined in Sections IV and V, each state shall have the opportunity to present appropriate information to that representative. This information may be presented through both oral presentations and written documents. All information will be shared with the other state. The representative of the USGS may also consult the facilitator referenced in Section V in an attempt to resolve any disputes.

E. The USGS shall pay the expenses of the representative appointed by the director of the USGS.

F. Points of disagreement shall be resolved by a majority vote.

Section VII. Funding

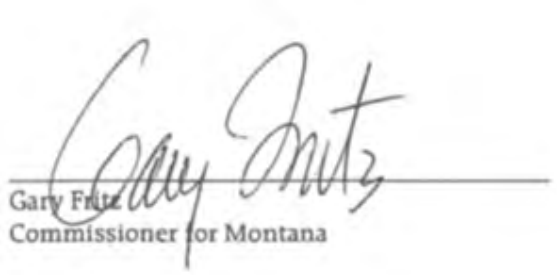
A. The USGS will pay one-half and the states of Montana and Wyoming shall each pay one-quarter of the expenses of the facilitator, which shall not exceed $10,000. unless agreed to by both states and the USGS.

Section VIII. Amendments

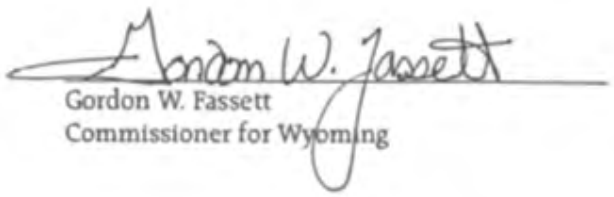
A. These rules may be amended or revised by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Section IX. Execution

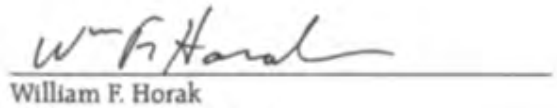
These rules for the resolution of disputes over the administration of the Yellowstone River Compact are hereby executed on the date indicated below.



Gary Fritz
Commissioner for Montana



Gordon W. Fassett
Commissioner for Wyoming



William F. Horak
Federal Representative

July 22, 1996
Date

Appendix 3. Rules for Adjudicating Water Rights on Interstate Ditches

Article I. Purpose

The purpose of this rule is to determine and adjudicate, in accordance with the laws of Montana and Wyoming, those pre-Compact (January 1, 1950) water rights diverting from the Powder, Tongue, Bighorn and Clarks Fork Rivers and their tributaries where the point of diversion is in one State and the place of use is in the other State which have not yet been adjudicated.

Article II. Authority

In accordance with the Yellowstone River Compact, the State of Montana and the State of Wyoming, being moved by consideration of interstate comity, desire to remove all causes of present and future controversy between the States and between persons in one State and persons in another State with respect to these interstate ditches. Article III (E) of the Compact provides the Yellowstone River Compact Commission with the authority " ... to formulate rules and regulations and to perform any act which they may find necessary to carry out the provisions of this Compact .... "

Article III. Definitions

The terms defined in the Yellowstone River Compact apply as well as the following definitions:

1. "Acre-feet" means the volume of water that would cover 1 acre of land to a depth of 1 foot.
2. "Cfs" means a flow of water equivalent to a volume of 1 cubic foot that passes a point in 1 second of time and is equal to 40 miners inches in Montana.
3. "Interstate Ditches" shall include ditches and canals which convey waters of the Bighorn, Tongue, Powder, and Clarks Fork Rivers and their tributaries across the Wyoming-Montana State line where the water is diverted in one State and the place of use is in the other State .
4. "Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, " hereafter called the "Department, " means the administrative agency and Department of the Executive Branch of the Government of Montana created under Title II, Chapter 15, MCA which has the responsibility for water administration in that State.
5. "Water Court" means a Montana District Court presided over by a water judge, as provided for in Title III, Chapter 7, MCA.
6. "State Engineer" shall be the current holder of the position created by the Wyoming Constitution as Chief Water Administration Official for the State of Wyoming.
7. "Board of Control, " hereinafter called the "Board," is defined as the constitutionally created water management agency in Wyoming composed of the four Water Division Superintendents and the State Engineer.
8. "Superintendent" is the member of the Board who is the water administration official for the interstate ditch is located. (The two Water Divisions in the Yellowstone River drainage are Water Division Numbers Two and Three.)
9. "Date of Priority" shall mean the earliest date of actual beneficial use of water, unless evidence and circumstances pertaining to a particular claim establish an earlier date.
10. "Point of Diversion" is defined to be the legal l and description by legal subdivision, section, township, and range of the location of the diversion structure for an interstate ditch from a natural stream channel.

11. "Place of Use" is defined to be the legal land description (legal subdivision, section, township, and range) of the lands irrigated by an interstate ditch.

12. "Person" is defined as an individual, a partnership, a corporation, a municipality or any other legal entity, public or private

13. "Claimant" is defined as any person claiming the use of water from an interstate ditch as herein defined.

Article IV. Procedures

The procedures for determining and adjudicating water rights associated with interstate ditches shall be categorized as follows: (A) Where the point of diversion is in Wyoming and place of use in Montana, and (B) Where the point of diversion is in Montana and place of use in Wyoming.

A. Wyoming Procedure

1. The Yellowstone River Compact Commission will provide a claim form to be completed by the claimant that will describe the location and point of diversion and land being irrigated, the priority date claimed, method of irrigation and such other information required to describe the claim. (A sample form for this purpose is attached.)

2. The Yellowstone River Compact Commission will send the claim form to water users on the interstate ditches.

3. Water users will complete the claim form and file it with the Yellowstone Compact Commission, which, when found to be correct and complete, will be forwarded to the Board for verification.

4. Upon receipt of the form, the Board shall forward it to the appropriate Superintendent, who, in cooperation with the Department, will validate the information including the use that has been made of the water, the number of acres and location of lands being irrigated, the priority date, and all other relevant information. The Superintendent and the Department will utilize aerial photography and other information to have prepared a reproducible map showing the location of the ditch system, lands irrigated, point of diversion, etc., of the claim.

5. After the validation procedure, the Superintendent will hold a hearing, after appropriate notice and advertisement, at which time the claimant shall describe, in detail, the use that has been made of the water and the lands that are being irrigated, establish a priority date, etc. Costs incurred in advertising shall be paid by the claimant. If a single hearing is held to consider several claims, the costs of advertising shall be shared equally among the claimants. Anyone who opposes the claim shall appear and state the reasons, if any, for opposition to the claim. If there is no opposition to the claim, cost incurred in holding the hearing shall be paid by the claimant. If protestants do appear and oppose the claim, hearing costs will be paid 50 percent by the claimant and 50 percent by the protestant, or if there is more than one protestant, the remaining 50 percent shall be shared equally among the protestants.

6. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Superintendent shall forward the record to the Yellowstone River Compact Commission with his findings and recommendations. The Yellowstone River Compact Commission will make the determination of the amount of the right, the location, and the priority date, and then send the record to the Board.

7. The Board shall review the record and integrate it into its water rights system. Upon entry of the record by the Board, the information shall be forwarded to the Department and the Chairman of the Yellowstone River Compact Commission.

8. Upon the entry of the right into the Board' s records, it will have the following attributes:

    a. The right will be a Wyoming water right with a priority date as established by this procedure.

    b. The amount of the right will be determined as provided by Wyoming law.

B. Montana Procedure

1. The Yellowstone River Compact Commission will provide a claim form to be completed by the claimant that will describe the location and point of diversion and land being irrigated, the priority date claimed, method of irrigation and such other information required to describe the claim.

2. The Commission will send the claim form to water users on the interstate ditches.
3. Water users will complete the claim form and file it with the Yellowstone River Compact Commission, which, when found to be correct and complete, will be forwarded to the Department for verification.
4. Upon receipt of the form, the Department, in cooperation with the Wyoming State Engineer' s Office, will validate the information, including the use that has been made of the water, the number of acres and location of lands being irrigated, the priority date, and all other relevant information. The appropriate Superintendent and the Department will utilize aerial photographs and other information to have prepared a reproducible map showing the location of the ditch system, land irrigated, point of diversion, etc., of the claim.
5. The Department will then forward the record to the Yellowstone River Compact Commission with its findings and recommendations. Upon approval by the Commission, the record shall be submitted to the Montana Water Court for adjudication. A duplicate record will be forwarded to the Wyoming State Engineer' s Office, the Board, and the Chairman of the Yellowstone River Compact Commission upon adjudication.
6. Upon adjudication of the right by the Montana Water Court, it will have the following attributes:
    a) The right will be a Montana water right with a priority date as established by this procedure.
    b) The amount of the right will be determined as provided by Montana law.

Article V. Exclusions

A. These rules recognize the limitation in Article VI of the Yellowstone River Compact regarding Indian water rights.

B. These rules shall not be construed to determine or interpret the rights of the States of Wyoming and Montana to the waters of the Little Bighorn River.

Article VI. Claim Form Submission Period

All claims must be submitted to the Yellowstone River Compact Commission, c/o District Chief, United States Geological Survey, 821 E. Interstate, Bismarck, ND 58501, within 90 calendar days after the claimant has received the claim form from the Commission. The blank claim form will be sent certified mail to the water user and the submission period of 90 calendar days will begin with the next day following receipt of the form, as evidenced by the certified mail receipt card. For good cause shown in writing, an extension of time beyond the 90 days for submittal may be obtained from the Commission.

Appendix 4. Claim Form for Interstate Ditches

YELLOWSTONE RIVER COMPACT COMMISSION

WYOMING

GORDON W. FASSETTT
STATE ENGINEER

HERSCHLER BUILDING
4th FLOOR EAST
CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82002
(307) 777-7354

UNITED STATES

WILLIAM F. HORAK
CHAIRMAN

U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
821 E. INTERSTATE AVENUE
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58501
(701) 250-4601

MONTANA

GARY FRITZ
ADMINISTRATOR, WATER RESOURCES DIVISION
DEPT.OF NATURAL RESOURCES & CONSERVATION
1520 EAST SIXTH AVENUE
HELENA, MONTANA 59620
(406) 444-6603

YELLOWSTONE RIVER COMPACT COMMISSION CLAIM FORM FOR INTERSTATE DITCHES

1. Name of ditch or canal: _____
2. Source of water supply: _____

   Tributary of _____
3. Name of claimant: _____

   Address _____

   City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

   Home Phone No. _____ Business Phone No. _____
4. Person completing form: _____

   Address _____

   City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

   Home Phone No. _____ Business Phone No. _____
5. Method of irrigation: _____
6. Point of diversion: County _____ State _____

   Headgate located in the ___1/4 ___1/4, Section ___, T.___ R.___

(a) Description of headgate: (Briefly describe the materials and general features, date constructed or last known work, general condition.) _____

_____

_____

(b) Describe water measuring device: _____

_____

_____

(c) If the point of diversion is in Montana:

1. What flow rate has been claimed?

_____ □ cubic feet per second

□ gallons per minute

□ miner's inches

2. What volume of water has been claimed?

_____ acre-feet

7. Dimensions of ditch at headgate: Width at top (at waterline) _____ feet; width at bottom _____ feet; side slopes (vertical:horizontal) _____:_____; depth of water _____ feet; grade _____ feet per mile.

8. Place of use and acres irrigated: County _____ State _____

Give legal subdivisions of land owned by you on which water is being used (acres claimed):
An example field is shown in the first line.

T.	R.	SEC.	NE¼				NW¼				SW¼				SE¼				TOTAL
			NE¼	NW¼	SW¼	SE¼	NE¼	MW¼	SW¼	SE¼	NE¼	NW¼	SW¼	SE¼	NE¼	NW¼	SW¼	SE¼	
58N	95W	18			25.1											10.2			35.3

9. Describe any additional uses of water claimed from the ditch: _____

_____

_____

10. Date of first beneficial use of water (priority date) on lands described above for _____ Ditch is _____ (mo/day/yr) and shall be the same for all lands claimed on this form.

11. Has irrigation water been diverted onto all lands shown in the above tabulation each year since completion of works? ____

If not, state exceptions and reasons therefore: _____

_____

_____

12. Attach documentary evidence or affidavits showing your ownership or control of the above lands, as well as the historic use of water on these lands. _____ _____
_____
_____

13. What permit or claim numbers have been assigned to known records filed with either the Wyoming State Engineer's Office or the Montana Department (DNRC) for irrigating the above lands? _____
_____
_____

14. Have personnel in the Wyoming state Engineer's Office or the Montana Department (DNRC) been contacted to obtain the information given in No. 13? ( ) Yes ( ) No

15. Describe any flumes or pipelines in the ditch conveyance system: _____
_____
_____

16. Describe ordinary annual period of use: _____ (mo/day) to _____ (mo/day)

17. Attach copies of aerial photographs, U.S. Geological Survey maps or other such documents showing the ditch and lands irrigated that give evidence to this claim and may be useful to the Commission.

****

State of _____)
) SS
State of _____)

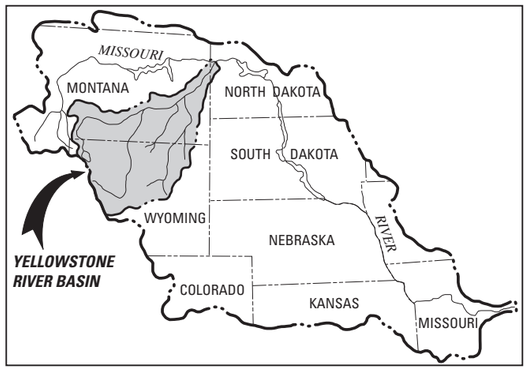
I, _____, having been duly sworn, depose and say that I, being of legal age and being the claimant of this claim for a water right, and the person whose name is signed to it as the claimant, know the contents of this claim and the matters and things stated there are correct.

_____
_____

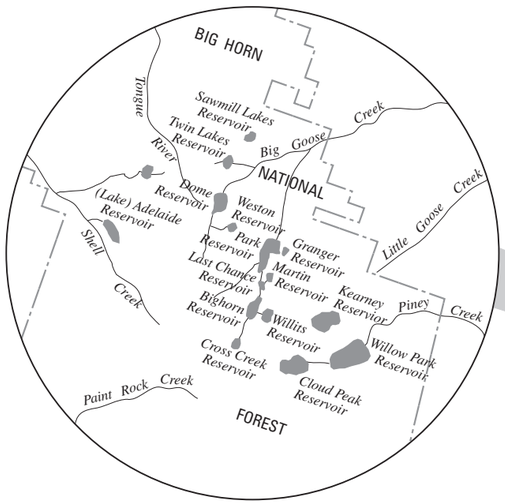
Subscribed and sworn before me, this ____ day of ____, 19____.

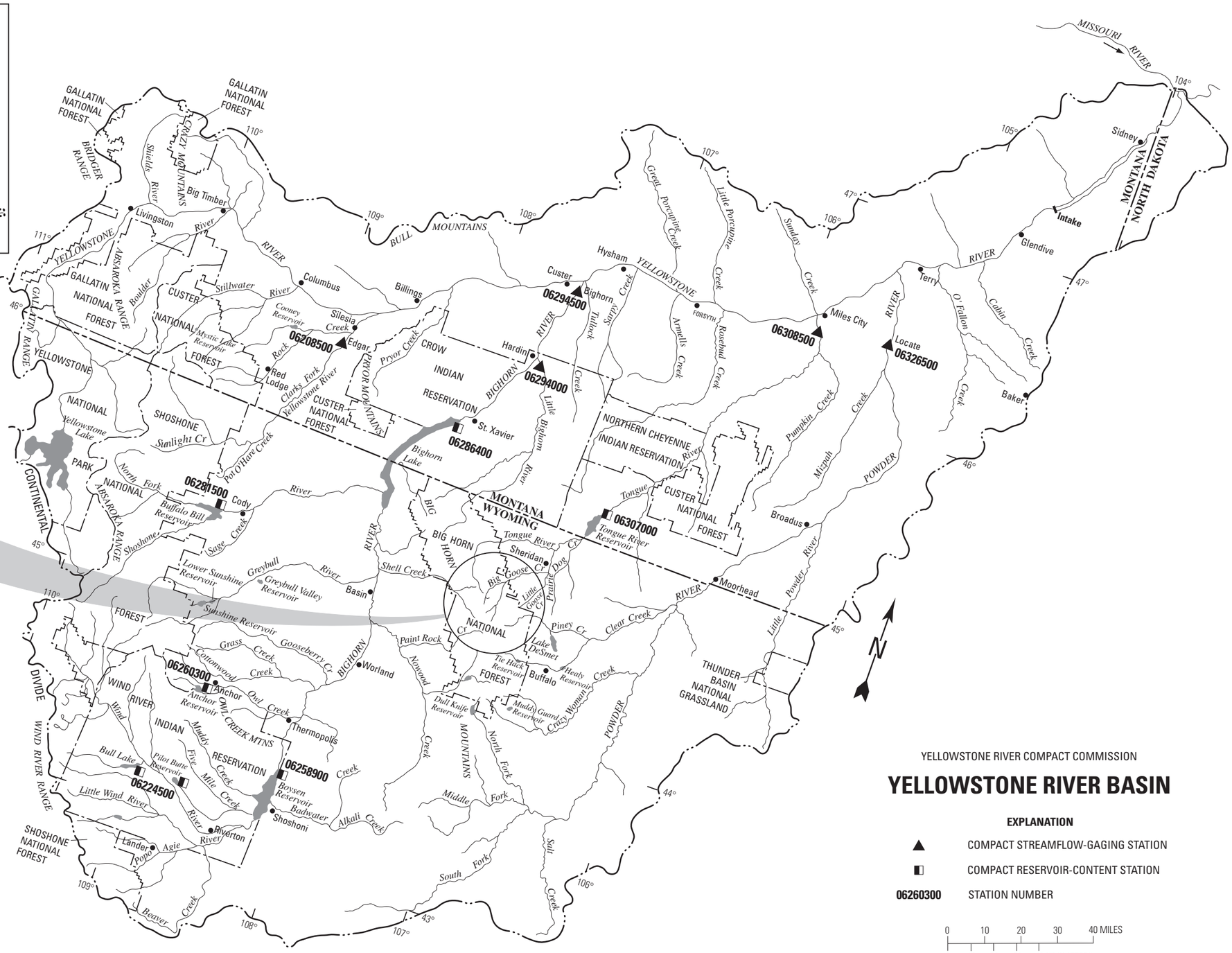
_____
Notary Public

Residing at: _____
My commission expires: _____



LOCATION MAP





YELLOWSTONE RIVER COMPACT COMMISSION

YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN

EXPLANATION

▲ COMPACT STREAMFLOW-GAGING STATION

◧ COMPACT RESERVOIR-CONTENT STATION

06260300 STATION NUMBER

0 10 20 30 40 MILES

0 10 20 30 40 KILOMETERS

LOCATIONS OF YELLOWSTONE RIVER COMPACT STREAMFLOW-GAGING AND RESERVOIR-CONTENT STATIONS