



DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT
and NATURAL RESOURCES

JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 EAST CAPITOL
PIERRE SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-3182
<http://denr.sd.gov>

MAY 22 2019

633B-2

Laurie J Whidby
1550 Seger Drive, Lot 88
Rapid City SD 57701

Dear Mr. Whidby:

Enclosed is Reissued Water License No. 633B-2.

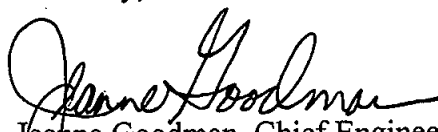
Based on the ownership change you filed, Water Right No. 633-2 has been divided and reissued to reflect separate ownership as follows:

- **No. 633A-2, Mitchell-Slovek Ranch, LLLP**, authorizing diversion of 1.55 cfs from the White River to irrigate 112 acres located in Lots 2 & 3 Section 31, T3S, R22E and Lots 1 & 2, Section 36, T3S, R21E
- **No. 633B-2, Laurie J Whidby**, authorizing diversion of 2.70 cfs from the White River to irrigate 195.7 acres located in Lots 1 through 7 and the W ½ SE ¼, S ½ SW ¼ Section 36, T44N, R36W

As long as you use the water beneficially, as stated in the Water License, State Water Laws provide that you have a continuing right to use the water. Included with your license is Receipt No. 09144 in the amount of \$50 which you paid for filing the ownership change.

For informational purposes, each year in October we mail out the annual irrigation questionnaire to irrigators for reporting water use. Please keep track of the water diverted during the season so you will be able to report the use this fall. Water must be placed to beneficial use for the purpose it was appropriated at least once every three years in order to maintain a water right.

Sincerely,


Jeanne Goodman, Chief Engineer
Water Rights Program
(605) 773-3352

enclosures

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
REISSUED WATER LICENSE NO. 633B-2
DIVISION OF WATER RIGHT NO. 633-2 INTO 633A-2 AND 633B-2

(1) Whidby Brothers, Kadoka SD were originally issued Water License No. 633-2, August 8, 1967 for a water right to divert 4.25 cubic feet of water per second (cfs) from the White River to irrigate 307.7 acres located in portions of Section 31, T3S, R22E; Section 36, T3S, R21E and Section 36, T44N, R36W in Jackson County, South Dakota. Water Right No. 633-2 carried a priority date of September 6, 1960.

On May 7, 2018 and May 15, 2019, ownership changes were filed with the water right. Based on the ownership changes, Water Right No. 633-2 has been divided and reissued to reflect separate ownership as follows:

- **No. 633A-2, Mitchell-Slovak Ranch, LLLP, 20901 Slovak Rd, Philip SD 57567** authorizing diversion of 1.55 cfs from the White River to irrigate 112 acres located in Lots 2 & 3 Section 31, T3S, R22E and Lots 1 & 2, Section 36, T3S, R21E.
- **No. 633B-2, Laurie J Whidby, 1550 Seger Drive, Lot 88, Rapid City SD 57701** authorizing diversion of 2.70 cfs from the White River to irrigate 195.7 acres located in Lots 1 through 7 and the W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 36, T44N, R36W.

(2) It is certified that the water right holder has complied with the provisions of South Dakota State Law and is entitled to divert 2.70 cubic feet of water per second for beneficial use. The location of the diversion point (as specified on the original license) is between a point in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 36, T3S, R21E and a point in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 31, T3S, R22E.

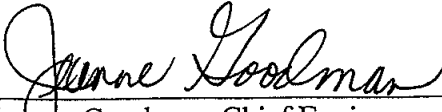
The land authorized for irrigation is located as follows:

Section 36, T44N, R36W					
Lot 1	8.0 acres	Lot 5	21.6 acres	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	4.8 acres
Lot 2	22.0 acres	Lot 6	54.4 acres	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	4.8 acres
Lot 3	7.2 acres	Lot 7	9.5 acres	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	12.4 acres
Lot 4	39.5 acres			SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	11.5 acres

Total 195.7 acres

(3) Pursuant to South Dakota Water Law 46-5-30.1 Laurie J Whidby, 1550 Seger Drive, Lot 88, Rapid City SD 57701 the holder and/or owner of Water Right No. 633B-2 is issued a license to appropriate water, the right to use 2.70 cubic feet of water per second from the White River with a priority date of September 6, 1960 from the locations specified in (2) of this license for irrigation purposes.

This license is subject to South Dakota Water Law and any limitations or conditions listed in Water Right No. 633-2.



Jeanne Goodman, Chief Engineer

Water Rights Program

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

MAY 22 2019

date



633B-2



DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT
and NATURAL RESOURCES

JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 EAST CAPITOL
PIERRE SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-3182
www.denr.sd.gov

May 7, 2019

633-2

Laurie Whidby
1550 Seger Dr Lot 88
Rapid City SD 57701-7821

Dear Ms. Whidby:

I am contacting you in regard to ownership of land described in Water Right No. 633-2. The water right authorizes diversion of water from the White River for irrigation of 307.7 acres in Jackson County.

Recently, Mitchell-Slovek Ranch LLLP filed an ownership change for 112 acres of the water right. I contacted the Jackson County Register of Deeds office in Kadoka concerning the remaining land and am told that you own the land. I have enclosed a description of the acres and a map outlining the area.

In order to update the water right and if you want to maintain the water right, you would need to file an ownership change. Once this is done, the water right will be divided and reissued to reflect separate ownership between you and Mitchell-Slovek Ranch LLLP. Enclosed is a partially completed "Notice of Transfer of Ownership" form for use in filing the ownership change. A \$50 fee is required for filing an ownership change. The check or money order for the fee can be made payable to the State of South Dakota.

If you have any questions concerning the water right, please get in touch with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Genny McMath".

Genny McMath
Water Rights Program
605 773-3352

Enclosures

RECEIPT

WATER RIGHTS PROGRAM

South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Date May 15, 2019

RECEIVED OF Laurie J Whidby 1550 Seger Drive Lot 88 Rapid City SD 57701

The following amount in fees for services rendered as provided for by law:

Fee for Application for Permit No. _____ to Appropriate Water, to construct and to put water to beneficial use	50	00
Fee for Application for Permit No. _____ to Appropriate Water for Future use		
Fee to retain Future Use Permit No. _____ after period of seven years.		
Fee for Inspecting Constructed Works, confirming beneficial use and issuing Water License No. _____		
Fee for Filing Transfer Form <u>633-2</u>		
Fee for _____		
Fee for Issuing New Well Driller's License No. _____ for C.Y. _____		
Fee for Renewal of Well Driller's License No. _____ for C.Y. _____		
Fee for Issuing Well Pump Installer's License No. _____ for C.Y. _____	50	00
Fee for Renewal of Well Pump Installer's License No. _____ for C.Y. _____		
(Any Other Work Provided by Law)	TOTAL	

No. **09144**

By Jeanne Goodman
Chief Engineer *vm*

NOTICE OF TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

PAID

MAY 15 2019

Ck# 5509

RECEIVED

To: Chief Engineer
Water Rights Program, DENR
523 E. Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-3181

MAY 15 2019

WATER RIGHTS
PROGRAM

No. 633B-2

Date: 5-12-2019

I/We request that portions of Water Right No. 633-2

formerly owned by: Julian Whidby

be transferred to: (name & address) Laurie J. Whidby

1550 Seger Drive Lot 88
Rapid City, South Dakota Telephone No. 605-545-7814

Title to the following described land(s)/property has been transferred as described above:

195.7 acres – Lots 1 through 7 and the W ½ SE ¼, S ½ SW ¼ all in Section 36, T44N, R36W

I/We understand that the validity of Water Right No. 633-2 has not been determined by this transfer action. If I/We have any questions on validity, I/We understand that only the Water Management Board has the authority to determine if a water permit/right is valid (see note).

You are requested to file this "Notice of Transfer" in the appropriate file with the Water Rights Program, as evidence of the change of ownership.

A fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) is required to cover the filing fees as required under SDCL 46-2-13. This form must be signed by the new owner.

I/We Laurie J. Whidby, the new owner, certify that the above information is true and correct.

Laurie J. Whidby
(Signed by new owner)

NOTE: Water permits may be cancelled for nonconstruction after the five year construction period has expired. Once a water permit is developed and the water used, the permit becomes a right. A water right may be lost for three reasons:

1. Abandonment - no intent to use water and use is abandoned.
2. Forfeiture - no use of water for three year period without legal excuse.
3. For a third violation of a condition of a water permit/right.



633B-2

**DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 E. CAPITOL AVE
PIERRE SD 57501-3182
danr.sd.gov

January 20, 2023

NOTICE

TO: LAURIE J WHIDBY, 1550 SEGER DR LOT 88, RAPID CITY, SD 57701

FROM: Ron Duvall, Water Rights Permitting Administrator
for Eric Gronlund, Chief Engineer
Water Rights Program

SUBJECT: Reporting Requirement for 2022 Irrigation Questionnaire(s)

Our records indicate your 2022 Irrigation Questionnaire has not been submitted for Permit No(s) 633B-2 as required by administrative rule 74:02:01:14.02. The request for the Questionnaire was dated October 21, 2022. The Water Management Board has directed owners of water permits who have not submitted the 2022 Irrigation Questionnaire be given notice of hearing to determine if any Board action is to be taken concerning this issue.

The hearing will be held at **Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 9:30 am (Central Time)** in the Floyd Matthew Training Center, Joe Foss Building, 523 E Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD and will be conducted pursuant to SDCL 46-1-12, 46-1-14, 46-2-9, 46-2-11 and 46-2-17. These are contested case hearings pursuant to Chapter 1-26. Following the hearing, the Water Management Board can:

1. Amend Permit No(s) 633B-2 to require the Irrigation Water Use Questionnaire to be submitted each year;
2. Postpone any action; or
3. Take no action.

The hearing is an adversary proceeding. The permit owner has the right to be present or to be represented by a lawyer. These and other due process rights will be forfeited if they are not exercised. Decisions of the Board may be appealed to the Circuit Court and the State Supreme Court as provided by law.

If the questionnaire(s) is (are) received in this office before the **March 8, 2023** hearing you will no longer be in violation of your permit and your name will be removed from the Board agenda. Enclosed are additional questionnaire(s) for your use. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Genny McMath at (605) 773-3352 or email at genny.mcmath@state.sd.us. **If you prefer, you can complete the questionnaire online at the following link: <https://danr.sd.gov/iq> using this password: GPFFCY**

Note: Please contact the Water Rights Program, Joe Foss Building, 523 E Capitol, Pierre, SD (605-773-3352) to assure access to the meeting room for the handicapped or to obtain an interpreter for the hearing impaired.



**DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
and NATURAL RESOURCES**
JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 E. CAPITOL AVE
PIERRE SD 57501-3182
danr.sd.gov

February 9, 2023

633B-2

Laurie J Whidby
1550 Seger Dr, Lot 88
Rapid City SD 57701

Dear Ms. Whidby:

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your 2022 irrigation questionnaire.

You may disregard the January 20, 2023, "Notice" concerning reporting requirements for Water Right No. 633B-2. The information was received in our office prior to the Water Management Board meeting and your name has been deleted from the agenda.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Genny McMath
Water Rights Program
605 773-3352
Genny.mcmath@state.sd.us



**DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 E. CAPITOL AVE
PIERRE SD 57501-3182
danr.sd.gov

Subject: Bypass Qualifications on the White River

March 30, 2023

Dear White River Water Right Holder,

The SD Dept. of Agriculture and Natural Resources Water Rights Program is reviewing qualifications on White River water rights in order to update when pumping is authorized. Water Rights issued with priority dates junior to 1975 contained a qualification requiring a mandatory June 1 shutoff to cease pumping water from the river. The mandatory June 1 shutoff qualification was placed on these permits to protect domestic water users, which includes livestock watering. The review found, with the passage of time the United States Geological Survey (USGS) streamflow monitoring has expanded and realtime access to this information has improved. An analysis of long-term historical flow found that the lower White River, downstream of the Little White River confluence, receives significant flow from the Little White River relative to the flow contribution from the upstream portion of the White River. Consequently, it may be possible to remove the mandatory June 1 shutoff qualification for the junior water right permits in this lower section of the river and replace the qualification with a flow bypass limitation as measured at the USGS streamflow gaging station located near Oacoma.

The intent of this effort is to allow for more efficient use of water when it is available by utilizing a bypass requirement as measured at a USGS stream flow gaging station for those water users. This qualification change will also allow many lower White River junior priority water right holders to irrigate after June 1 without the need to request an extension from the Chief Engineer. Current real time river flow information can be easily accessed on-line at the following internet address:

<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/sd/nwis/rt>

In order to amend a qualification on an existing water right permit, formal action by the SD Water Management Board is needed. In the near future, you can expect to receive official notification scheduling a hearing before the Water Management Board. The notification will include if your water right is proposed to have the qualification amended. This hearing will also be public noticed in select county newspapers in which the White River flows through. If you wish to participate in the hearing, you can, but you are not required to. There will be instructions with the notification on how to participate in the hearing if you so choose.

If you have any questions concerning this effort, please contact Mark Rath of the Water Rights Program at (605) 773-3352 or mark.rath@state.sd.us

Sincerely,

Eric Gronlund, Chief Engineer
SD DANR – Water Rights Program

Review of White River Water Rights and Report on Proposed Amendment

February 14, 2023

Introduction

An evaluation was made of the current qualifications that were placed on the existing White River water permits/rights to determine whether these qualifications are effectively managing the water source for the users.

Review of the Water Source

The White River, a prairie stream, located in southwestern South Dakota and northwestern Nebraska, Figure 1. The White River headwaters originate in northwestern Nebraska and drains approximately 9,975 square miles before discharging into the Missouri River near Oacoma SD.

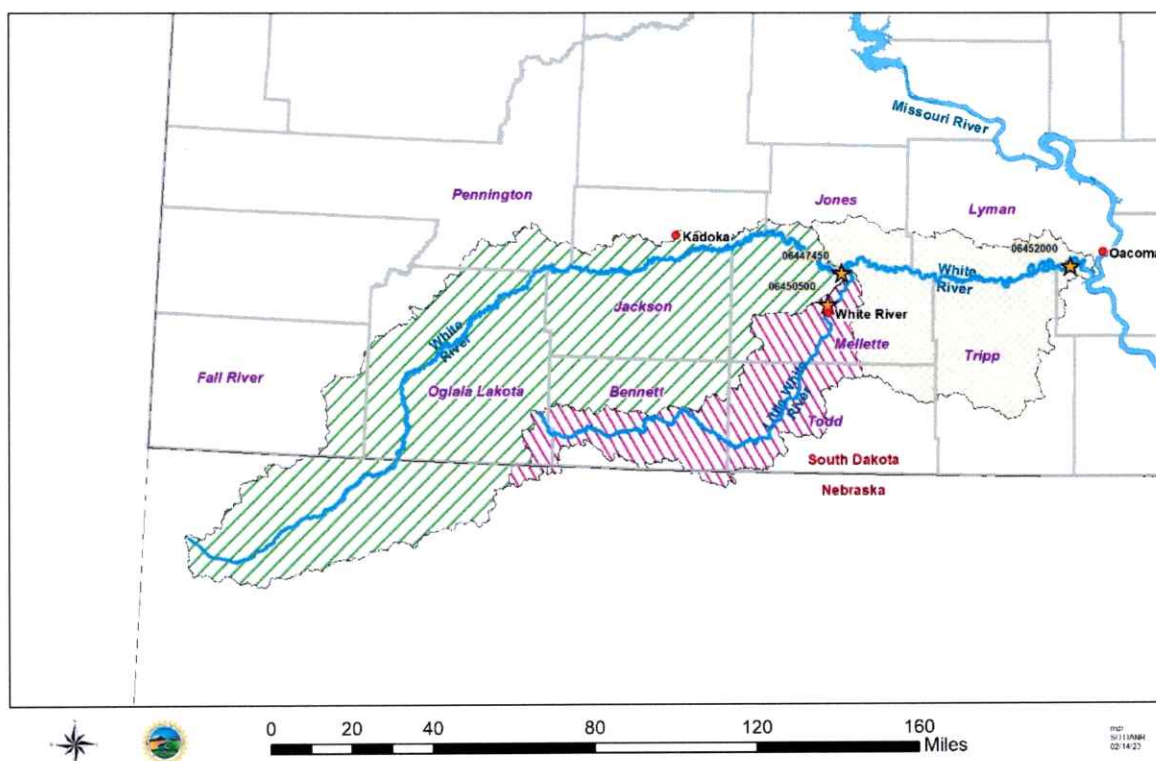


Figure 1. White River Watershed Map.

The entire watershed can be broken into three sections: upper White River, lower White River and Little White River. The upper White River watershed is the portion drained by the White River headwaters in northwestern Nebraska and drains portions of Oglala Lakota, Fall River, Bennett, Pennington, Jackson, Mellette, Jones, and Todd Counties located upstream of the Little White River confluence. The Little White River watershed is drained by the Little White River headwaters in Oglala Lakota County, draining portions of Nebraska, and Bennett, Todd, and Mellette Counties before merging with the White River approximately 12 miles southeast of the town of Murdo. The Little White River has more uniform flow than the White River due to a permeable sand formation allowing precipitation seeping into the ground to move laterally into the stream through springs and seeps (Ellis, et al. 1971). The lower White River section, after receiving contributing flow from the Little White and upper White rivers, also drains

portions of Mellette, Jones, Todd, Tripp, and Lyman Counties before discharging to the Missouri River just south of the town of Oacoma.

A percentile is a measure used in statistics to indicate the value below which a given percentage of observations in a group of observations fall, in this case daily flows. The percentiles shown correspond to flow scenarios during drier conditions when water would be in short supply. A percentile hydrograph can also give an indication of the time of year when water can be expected to be available at the gage location.

The USGS Stream Gaging No. 06447450 White River near White River, SD is located approximately 2 miles upstream from the confluence of the White and Little White rivers. Figure 2, shows three statistically derived flow levels consisting of the daily median (or 50 percentile), the 25 percentile, and the 10 percentile daily flow values for this stream gage. As this figure indicates, there is an increase in flow in the White River corresponding to spring snowmelt and spring rain events. The figure shows the median or 50 percentile hydrograph for this stream gage exhibits the daily flow values at or below this level on average one out of two years and also indicates flow curtailing in the mid-July to early September time frame before leveling off. It should be noted during any given year, flow in the river is not going to exactly mirror the median flow values. Since the median daily value is the center value with half the measured flow values greater and half less, what median values do provide is an overall indication of the historical flow characteristics for the stream at that location based upon the period of record. The hydrograph also shows there is a significant decline in available water corresponding with the 25 and 10 percentile levels from mid-to-late June.

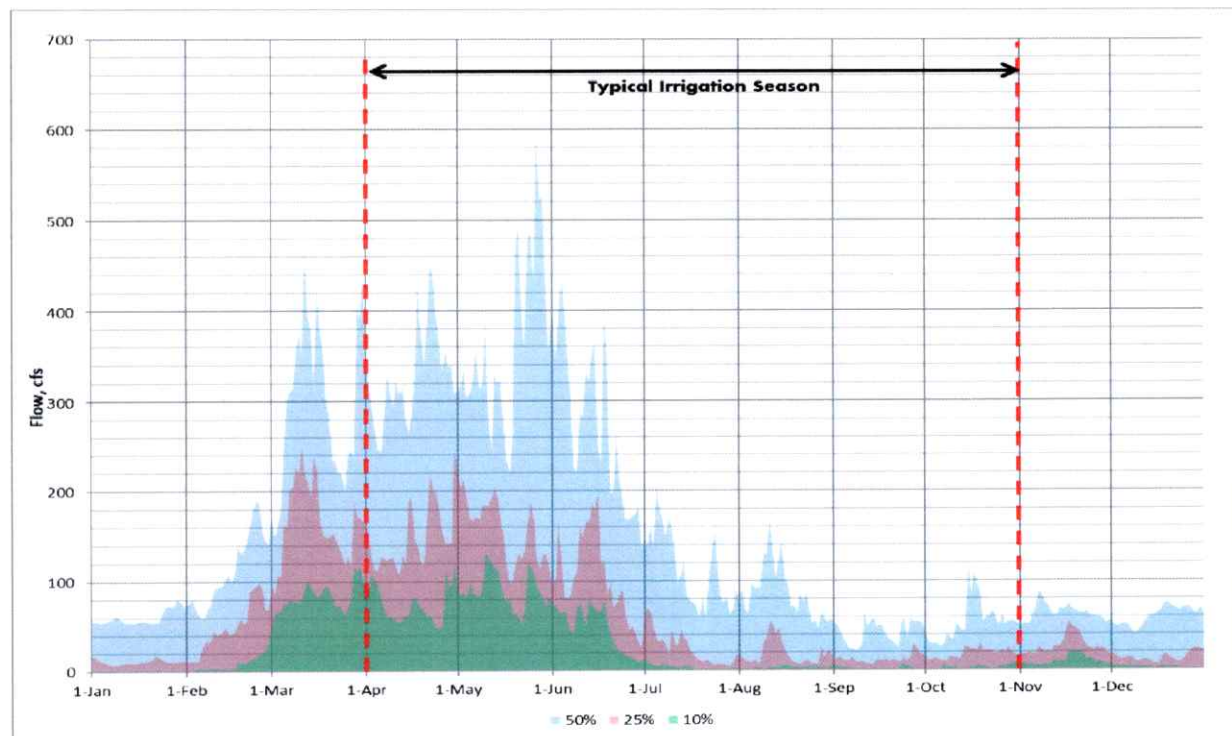


Figure 2. Daily percentile flow hydrographs for the USGS White River near White River 2001-2022, contributing drainage area 6202 mi² (USGS, 2023).

The USGS Stream Gaging No. 06450500 Little White River near White River, SD is located approximately 14.5 miles upstream from the confluence of the Little White River with the White River. Figure 3, indicates there is an increase in flow in the Little White River corresponding to spring snowmelt and rain events. The figure shows the median or 50, 25 and 10 percentile hydrograph levels for this stream and indicates flow at each of the three percentiles peaks in late March and steadily declines until the first of August. Flow then levels off for the remainder of the irrigation season but generally a base flow is maintained throughout the year.

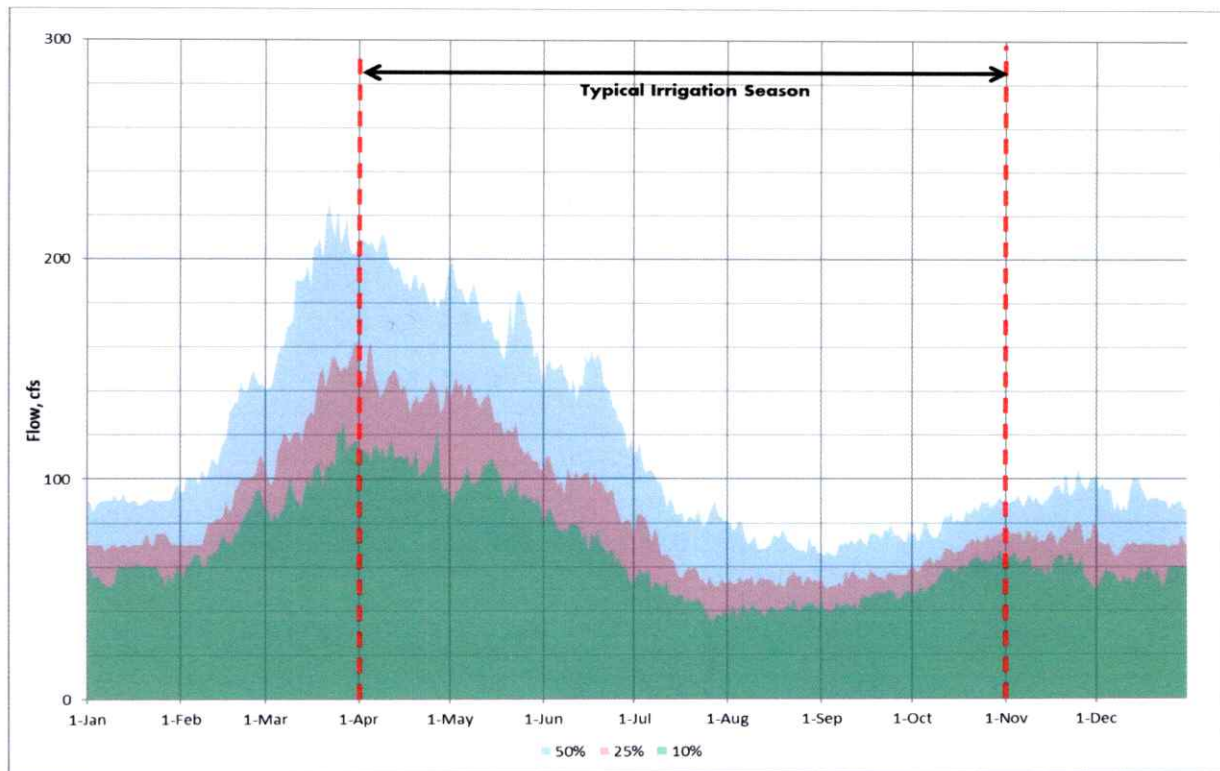


Figure 3. Daily percentile flow hydrographs for the USGS Little White River near White River, 1949-2022, contributing drainage area 1,495 mi² (USGS, 2023).

The USGS Stream Gaging No. 06452000 White River near Oacoma, SD is located approximately 55 river miles downstream from the confluence of the White and Little White rivers and approximately 16 miles upstream from the point where the White River flows into the Missouri River on Lake Francis Case. Figure 4 is a hydrograph showing the 50, 25 and 10 percentile levels similar to what was shown in the previous two figures. The median or 50 percentile hydrograph for this stream gage exhibits the daily flow values at or below this level on average one out of two years, and shows an increase in flow in the White River starting in early February corresponding to early spring runoff and maintains strong flows through most of June before tailing off through the remainder of the summer and fall months. At the 50 percentile level corresponding flow can be expected to be in excess of 40 cubic feet of water per second (cfs) throughout the year on average one out of two years. Looking at the hydrographs corresponding to the 25 and 10 percentiles, they show a similar trend to the 50 percentile curve with increased flows in February and tailing off in the latter part of June. The 25 percentile level shows the daily flow values at or below this level on average one out of four years, indicating flows remain above the 40 cfs level except for a period December through January. At the 10 percentile level, corresponding to the daily flow values

at or below this level on average one out of ten years, flows stay above 20 cfs except during the three week period from the first week of August through the first of September and the six week period in December and January, which is outside the irrigation season.

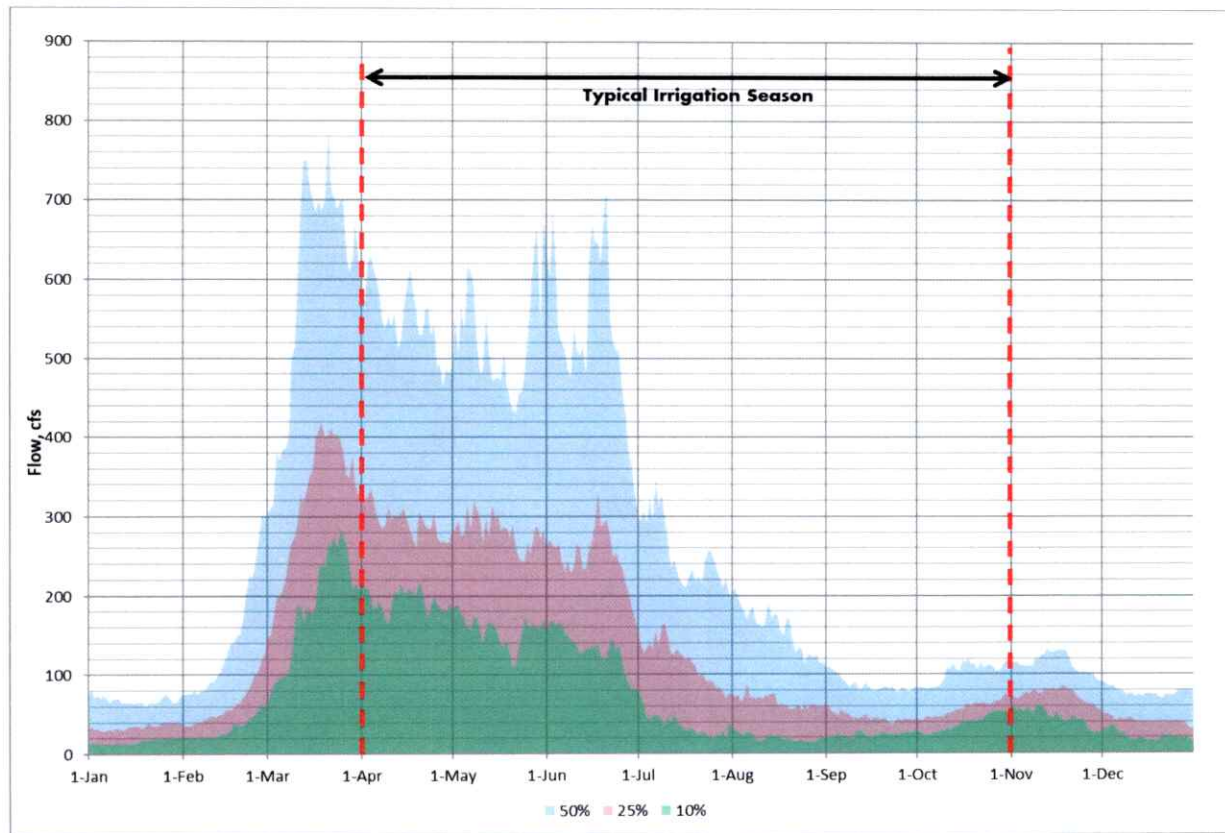


Figure 4. Daily percentile flow hydrographs for the USGS White River near Oacoma, 1928-2022, contributing drainage area 7,697 mi² (USGS, 2023).

The Water Management Board Authority

SDCL 46-1-14 gives the Water Management Board the authority to amend water right permits. Water permits issued by the board may be amended by the board with priority retained upon amendment. The board may alter terms, conditions, restrictions, qualifications, or quantifications.

South Dakota Codified Law

46-1-14. Terms and conditions of permits and licenses--Amendment. The Water Management Board may issue any permit or license subject to terms, conditions, restrictions, qualifications, quantifications, or limitations on perpetuity consistent with this chapter which it considers necessary to protect the public interest and which are related to matters within the jurisdiction of the board. Water rights issued pursuant to this section may be amended by the board and priority is retained upon amendment. Upon amendment the board may alter terms, conditions, restrictions, qualifications, or quantifications consistent with this chapter.

46-2-3.1. Delegation of authority to chief engineer--Restrictions. The Water Management Board may delegate to the chief engineer authority to act on its behalf concerning the quasi-judicial functions of interpreting,

applying, and enforcing existing rules and laws and ordering action or abatement of action. The board may not delegate any other quasi-judicial functions as defined in § 1-32-1, except as otherwise provided by law. The board may promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 1-26 to delegate to the chief engineer the authority to issue permits pursuant to § 46-1-14.

46-2-17. Chief engineer's general enforcement authority. The chief engineer may:

- 1) Investigate the use of the waters of the state and compliance with the provisions of water permits, licenses, rules, regulations, and laws relating to water rights.
- 2) Institute enforcement and other proceedings before the Water Management Board;
- 3) Enforce orders of the board; and
- 4) Perform other acts authorized by statute or regulation.

46-2-18. Chief engineer's authority to order discontinuance of water use. The provisions of chapter 1-26 notwithstanding, the chief engineer may, after appropriate investigation, issue an order to any person to shut off or limit the person's use of surface or groundwater, or to plug or otherwise control a well. The order may be issued only to protect another user who has higher or earlier priority or to cause a user of water to discontinue the use of water to which the user has no legal right. Upon a refusal to obey the order, the chief engineer may request a court of proper jurisdiction to issue a temporary restraining order or injunction to effectuate the provisions of the order.

Review of Existing Water Rights and Reported Use

A review of Water Right Program files shows there have been 200 water permits/rights issued from either the White or Little White rivers, some with priority dates going back to 1901. Many of these have been cancelled due to abandonment or forfeiture, some have been incorporated into other water permits, and some remain active. Currently, there are 82 existing permits/rights appropriating 190.9 cfs from the White River. Eighty of the existing permits/rights are for irrigation use and the other two are for small dams used for domestic and recreation purposes. Figure 5 shows a comparison between the water appropriated for irrigation use and the annual reported use by these irrigators for the years 1995 to 2021. As this figure indicates except for three years in the early 2000's, less than 10% of the water appropriated annually for irrigation was reported to be used (Water Rights. 2023).

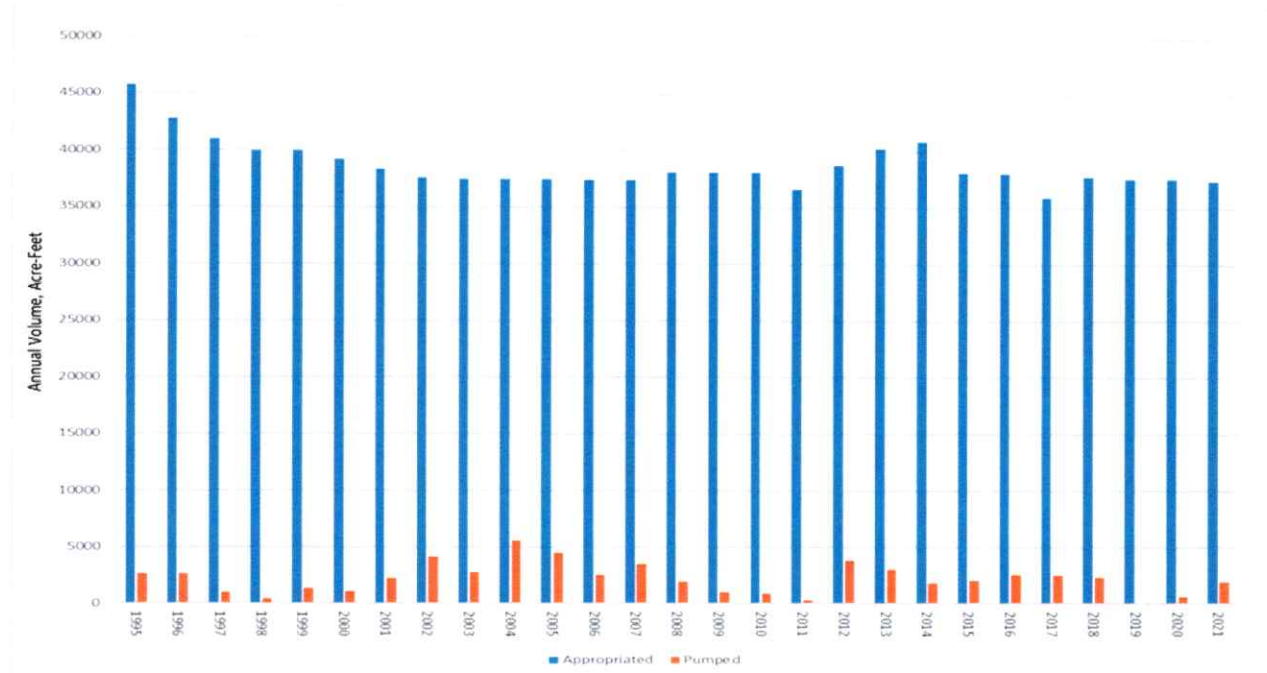


Figure 5. Total irrigation allocation and reported use from the White River (Water Rights, 2023).

Qualification Status

An examination of water right files found the Water Resources Commission, a predecessor to the Water Management Board, placed the first low flow bypass qualification, on a White River water permits in Lyman and Jackson counties in 1964. (Water Rights, 2023). In January of 1977, the Water Rights Commission, another predecessor to the Water Management Board, approved several deferred White River applications with priority dates going back to April 12, 1976, and placed a June 1 cutoff qualification on them. This same qualification has been placed on all White River permits issued since then.

In 2012, the Water Rights Program received an application for a water permit to irrigate from the White River in the river reach downstream from the Little White confluence. The analysis for that application resulted in a qualification to the issued water permit that the permit holder may request written authorization from the Chief Engineer to allow the irrigator to continue irrigating after the June 1 shutoff date. Prior to issuing the written authorization, the Chief Engineer would determine whether an appropriate base flow level was present. A 20 cfs bypass has been used in on other major rivers in South Dakota to provide for a base flow to insure domestic/livestock water needs are satisfied. It was determined a minimum base flow of 20 cfs bypass after pumping, as measured at the USGS gaging station, White River near Oacoma, was needed to allow the Chief Engineer to provide written authorization to continue using water. The permit was issued with the following qualifications (Water Rights. 2023).

1. This Permit authorizes the diversion of water from the dugout adjacent to the White River until June 1 of each calendar year. After June 1, there shall be no diversions under this Permit unless written authorization is issued by the Chief Engineer. Diversion under this Permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.

2. Diversions from the dugout adjacent to the White River are authorized only when flow at the USGS Gaging Station No. 06452000 – White River near Oacoma is at least 20 cfs while pumping under this Permit.

Since that water permit was issued in 2012, the 20 cfs bypass as measured at the Oacoma stream gage criteria has been utilized multiple times when issuing written authorization to allow pumping after the June 1 cutoff in this river reach. This criterion has worked well.

Analysis and Proposed Qualification Revisions

The original cutoff date and the later adopted bypass requirement were analyzed to determine whether the 20 cfs bypass requirement would be a more effective means of managing active water rights going forward in the lower reach of the White River rather than a June 1 mandatory shutoff date. The review took into consideration the existing water rights, the qualifications, the authorized use, the location of the diversion points, the annual period of use, and historic stream flow data.

Upper White River

Water rights/permits with priority dates junior to April 11, 1976, located on the upper White River in the river reach upstream from the confluence with the Little White River contain the June 1 mandatory shutoff qualification.

The percentile hydrograph for USGS Stream Gaging No. 06447450 White River near White River, SD shown in Figure 2, indicates a decline in flow during the month of June at the three percentile levels shown (USGS. 2023). At the 10 and 25 percentile levels, corresponding to daily flow values at or below the indicated level on average one out of four years and one out of ten years respectively, show expected flow levels falling to a range of 20 cfs or below. At this time the current June 1 cutoff qualification appears to be working well, with irrigators requesting pumping variances when needed. A review of Water Rights Program files indicates this occurs sporadically with it most recently happening in the summer of 2022. An irrigator near Kadoka requested a temporary variance to pump runoff from a large upstream thunderstorm (Water Rights. 2023). At this time the recommendation is to leave the existing qualification requirements in place for current and future water rights/permits located in this river reach because the current qualification is working well.

Lower White River

Water rights/permits with priority dates junior to April 11, 1976, located on the lower White River in the river reach downstream from the confluence with the Little White River, contain the June 1 mandatory shutoff qualification.

In 2012, the Water Rights Program received Water Permit Application No. 2681-2, to divert water for irrigation from the lower White River reach. The analysis for that application determined that based upon historical flow data, there was a likelihood that water would be available many years in this reach after June 1 and there was a possibility the permit holder would be asking for a variance to allow pumping after the mandatory shutoff date. For the Chief Engineer to be able to grant written authorization to allow pumping and protect the base flow of the river, a new qualification was adopted (Water Rights. 2023).

- Diversions from the White River are authorized only when flow at the USGS Gaging Station No. 06452000 – White River near Oacoma is at least 20 cfs.

Since 2012, the June 1 mandatory shutoff and the 20 cfs bypass qualifications have been placed on water permits issued in the lower White River reach. The Water Rights Program has received numerous requests from these permit holders over multiple years to allow diversions from the river after June 1. Based upon the experience the Water Rights Program has gained managing use based off the 20 cfs bypass qualification, we found this qualification to be an effective water management tool for this lower reach of the White River.

There are 32 water permits/rights appropriating 86.81 cfs from the White River reach downstream of the Little White River confluence. Of these, there are 11 water permits/rights appropriating 29.54 cfs containing the qualification requiring diversions cease after June 1st of each calendar year (Water Rights. 2023). Based upon the review of the stream gaging, reported water use, and our experience with using the White River stream gage near Oacoma to regulate water diversions, I recommend for the water permits/rights located in the lower White River reach, the June 1st mandatory shutoff qualification be removed and the qualification requiring a 20 cfs bypass as measured at the White River near Oacoma stream gage be added to those water permits/rights that do not already have it.

Specific Proposed Qualification Revisions by Water Permit

To standardize the bypass qualifications for the existing water permits containing a June 1 mandatory shutoff qualification in the lower White River reach downstream from the Little White River confluence to Missouri River, the following changes are proposed:

Amendment to the qualifications contained in Water Right No. 1474-2

Delete Qualification:

Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be by-passed. This permit authorizes the diversion of water from the White River for either to the land directly or off-stream storage until June 1 of each calendar year. After June 1, there shall be no diversions from the White River under this Permit unless written authorization is issued by the Water Rights Commission or its legally appointed representative. Diversion under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Commission or its Representative.

Add Qualifications:

- Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be bypassed.
- Diversions from the White River are authorized only when flow at the USGS Gaging Station No. 06452000 – White River near Oacoma is at least 20 cfs.
- Diversion of water under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.
- The Water Management Board retains jurisdiction of this water right in the event additional information shows that adjustments need to be made to the bypass requirements.

Amendment to the qualifications contained in Water Right No. 1501-2

Delete Qualification:

Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be by-passed. This permit authorizes the diversion of water from the White River for either to the land directly or off-stream storage until June 1 of each calendar year. After June 1,

there shall be no diversions from the White River under this Permit unless written authorization is issued by the Water Rights Commission or its legally appointed representative. Diversion under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Commission or its Representative.

Add Qualifications:

- Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be bypassed.
- Diversions from the White River are authorized only when flow at the USGS Gaging Station No. 06452000 – White River near Oacoma is at least 20 cfs.
- Diversion of water under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.
- The Water Management Board retains jurisdiction of this water right in the event additional information shows that adjustments need to be made to the bypass requirements.

Amendment to the qualifications contained in Water Right No. 1504-2

Delete Qualification:

Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be by-passed. This permit authorizes the diversion of water from the White River for irrigation to the land directly until June 1 of each calendar year. After June 1, there shall be no diversions from the White River under this Permit unless written authorization is issued by the Water Rights Commission or its legally appointed representative. Diversion under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Commission or its Representative.

Add Qualifications:

- Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be bypassed.
- Diversions from the White River are authorized only when flow at the USGS Gaging Station No. 06452000 – White River near Oacoma is at least 20 cfs.
- Diversion of water under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.
- The Water Management Board retains jurisdiction of this water right in the event additional information shows that adjustments need to be made to the bypass requirements.

Amendment to the qualifications contained in Water Right No. 1529-2

Delete Qualification:

Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be by-passed. This permit authorizes the diversion of water from the White River for irrigation to the land directly until June 1 of each calendar year. After June 1, there shall be no diversions from the White River under this Permit unless written authorization is issued by the Water Rights Commission or its legally appointed representative. Diversion under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Commission or its Representative.

Add Qualifications:

- Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be bypassed.
- Diversions from the White River are authorized only when flow at the USGS Gaging Station No. 06452000 – White River near Oacoma is at least 20 cfs.
- Diversion of water under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.
- The Water Management Board retains jurisdiction of this water right in the event additional information shows that adjustments need to be made to the bypass requirements.

Amendment to the qualifications contained in Water Right No. 1557-2

Delete Qualification:

Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be by-passed. This permit authorizes the diversion of water from the White River for irrigation to the land directly until June 1 of each calendar year. After June 1, there shall be no diversions from the White River under this Permit unless written authorization is issued by the Water Rights Commission or its legally appointed representative. Diversion under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Commission or its Representative.

Add Qualifications:

- Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be bypassed.
- Diversions from the White River are authorized only when flow at the USGS Gaging Station No. 06452000 – White River near Oacoma is at least 20 cfs.
- Diversion of water under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.
- The Water Management Board retains jurisdiction of this water right in the event additional information shows that adjustments need to be made to the bypass requirements.

Amendment to the qualifications contained in Water Right No. 1630-2

Delete Qualification:

Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be by-passed. This permit authorizes the diversion of water from the White River for off-stream storage until June 1st of each calendar year. After June 1st, there shall be no diversions from the White River under this Permit unless written authorization is issued by the Water Management Board or its legally appointed representative. Diversion under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Board or its representative.

Add Qualifications:

- Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be bypassed.
- Diversions from the White River are authorized only when flow at the USGS Gaging Station No. 06452000 – White River near Oacoma is at least 20 cfs.
- Diversion of water under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.

- The Water Management Board retains jurisdiction of this water right in the event additional information shows that adjustments need to be made to the bypass requirements.

Amendment to the qualifications contained in Water Right No. 1765-2

Delete Qualification:

Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be by-passed. This permit authorizes the diversion of water from the White River for either to the land directly or off-stream storage until June 1 of each calendar year. After June 1, there shall be no diversions from the White River under this Permit unless written authorization is issued by the Water Rights Commission or its legally appointed representative. Diversion under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Commission or its Representative.

Add Qualifications:

- Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be bypassed.
- Diversions from the White River are authorized only when flow at the USGS Gaging Station No. 06452000 – White River near Oacoma is at least 20 cfs.
- Diversion of water under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.
- The Water Management Board retains jurisdiction of this water right in the event additional information shows that adjustments need to be made to the bypass requirements.

Amendment to the qualifications contained in Water Right No. 2312-2

Delete Qualification:

Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be by-passed. This permit authorizes the diversion of water from the White River for irrigation to the land directly until June 1 of each calendar year. After June 1, there shall be no diversions from the White River under this Permit unless written authorization is issued by the Water Rights Commission or its legally appointed representative. Diversion under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Commission or its Representative.

Add Qualifications:

- Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be bypassed.
- Diversions from the White River are authorized only when flow at the USGS Gaging Station No. 06452000 – White River near Oacoma is at least 20 cfs.
- Diversion of water under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.
- The Water Management Board retains jurisdiction of this water right in the event additional information shows that adjustments need to be made to the bypass requirements.

The water rights/permits listed below were issued with a separate qualification that should be retained:

- Diversions from the White River are authorized only when flow at the USGS Gaging Station No. 06452000 – White River near Oacoma is at least 20 cfs while pumping under this water right.

Amendment to the qualifications contained in Water Right No. 2681A-2

Delete Qualification:

Water Permit No. 2681-2 authorizes the diversion of water from the White River for irrigation to the land directly or to two storage dams until June 1st of each calendar year. After June 1st, there shall be no diversions from the White River under this Permit unless written authorization is issued by the Chief Engineer. Diversion of water under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.

Add Qualifications:

- Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be bypassed.
- Diversion of water under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.
- The Water Management Board retains jurisdiction of this water right in the event additional information shows that adjustments need to be made to the bypass requirements.

Amendment to the qualifications contained in Water Right No. 2701-2

Delete Qualifications:

Water Permit No. 2701-2 authorizes the diversion of water from the White River for irrigation to the land directly or to the existing dugout and storage dam authorized by Water Right No. 1415A-2 and Water Permit No. 2647-2 until June 1st of each calendar year. After June 1st, there shall be no diversions from the White River under this Permit unless written authorization is issued by the Chief Engineer. Diversion of water under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer. *(Water Right No. 1415A-2 and Water Permit No. 2647-2 have been incorporated and are now licensed under No. 2647-2.)*

Water from the White River may be diverted to the dugout and existing dam authorized by Water Right No. 1415A-2 and Water Permit No. 2647-2 subject to qualifications Nos. 1 and 2. Diversion of stored water from either the dugout or the dam for irrigation of the authorized land is not subject the June 1st shut-off. *(Water Right No. 1415A-2 and Water Permit No. 2647-2 have been incorporated and are now licensed under No. 2647-2.)*

Add Qualifications:

- Low flows as needed for downstream domestic use, including livestock watering and prior water rights must be bypassed.
- Water Right No. 2701-2 authorizes the diversion of water from the White River for irrigation to the land directly or to the existing dugout and storage dam authorized by Water Right No. 2647-2
- Diversion of water under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.
- The Water Management Board is retaining jurisdiction of this permit in the event additional information shows that adjustments need to be made to the bypass requirements.

Amendment to the qualifications contained in Water Permit No. 2835-2

Delete Qualification:

This permit authorizes the diversion of water from the dugout adjacent to the White River until June 1 of each calendar year. After June 1, there shall be no diversions from the White River under this Permit unless written authorization is issued by the Chief Engineer. Diversion under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.

Add Qualifications:

- This permit authorizes the diversion of water from the dugout adjacent and hydraulically connected to the White River. Diversion of water under this permit shall be in accordance with any written orders issued by the Chief Engineer.
- The Water Management Board retains jurisdiction of this water right in the event additional information shows that adjustments need to be made to the bypass requirements.



Mark D. Rath
Natural Resources Engineer III

References

Ellis, M. J. and D.G. Adolphson. 1971. Hydrologic Atlas 357, Hydrogeology of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota. United States Geologic Survey Publication Warehouse.

USGS. 2023. United States Geological Survey, National Water Information System – Stream Gaging Station Network for South Dakota.

Water Rights. 2023. Water Right/Permit Files. SD DANR-Water Rights Program, Joe Foss Bldg., Pierre, South Dakota.



**DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 E CAPITOL AVE
PIERRE SD 57501-3182
danr.sd.gov

February 4, 2026

633B-2

Laurie J. Whidby
1550 Seger Dr Lot 88
Rapid City, SD 57701

Dear Ms. Whidby,

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your 2025 irrigation questionnaire(s).

You may disregard the January 20, 2026, "Notice" concerning irrigation reporting requirements for your water permit/right(s). The information was received in our office prior to the Water Management Board meeting, and your name has been deleted from the agenda.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Shannon Konst
Water Rights Program
605 773-8204
Shannon.konst@state.sd.us

633B-2



**DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 E. CAPITOL AVE
PIERRE SD 57501-3182
danr.sd.gov

January 20, 2026

NOTICE

TO: LAURIE J WHIDBY, 1550 SEGER DR LOT 88, RAPID CITY, SD 57701

FROM: Ron Duvall, Engineer III
for Adam Mathiowetz, PE, Acting Chief Engineer
Water Rights Program

SUBJECT: Reporting Requirement for 2025 Irrigation Questionnaire(s)

Our records indicate your 2025 Irrigation Questionnaire has not been submitted for Permit No(s) 633B-2 as required by administrative rule 74:02:01:14.02. The request for the Questionnaire was dated October 8, 2025. The Water Management Board has directed owners of water permits who have not submitted the 2025 Irrigation Questionnaire be given notice of hearing to determine if any Board action is to be taken concerning this issue.

The hearing will be held on **Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 9:30 am (Central Time)** in the Floyd Matthew Training Center, Joe Foss Building, 523 E Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD and will be conducted pursuant to SDCL 46-1-12, 46-1-14, 46-2-9, 46-2-11 and 46-2-17. These are contested case hearings pursuant to Chapter 1-26. Following the hearing, the Water Management Board can:

1. Amend Permit No(s) 633B-2 to require the Irrigation Water Use Questionnaire to be submitted each year;
2. Postpone any action; or
3. Take no action.

The hearing is an adversary proceeding. The permit owner has the right to be present or to be represented by a lawyer. These and other due process rights will be forfeited if they are not exercised. Decisions of the Board may be appealed to the Circuit Court and the State Supreme Court as provided by law.

If the questionnaire(s) is (are) received in this office before the **March 4, 2026** hearing you will no longer be in violation of your permit and your name will be removed from the Board agenda. Enclosed are additional questionnaire(s) for your use. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Shannon Konst at (605) 773-3352 or email at shannon.konst@state.sd.us. **If you prefer, you can complete the questionnaire online at the following link: <https://danr.sd.gov/iq> using this password: THTHQG**

Note: Please contact the Water Rights Program, Joe Foss Building, 523 E Capitol, Pierre, SD (605-773-3352) to assure access to the meeting room for the handicapped or to obtain an interpreter for the hearing impaired.