Drought Impacts and Response

Stephen Begley

Water Rights & Instream Flow Specialist

Governor's Drought and Water Supply Advisory Committee Meeting

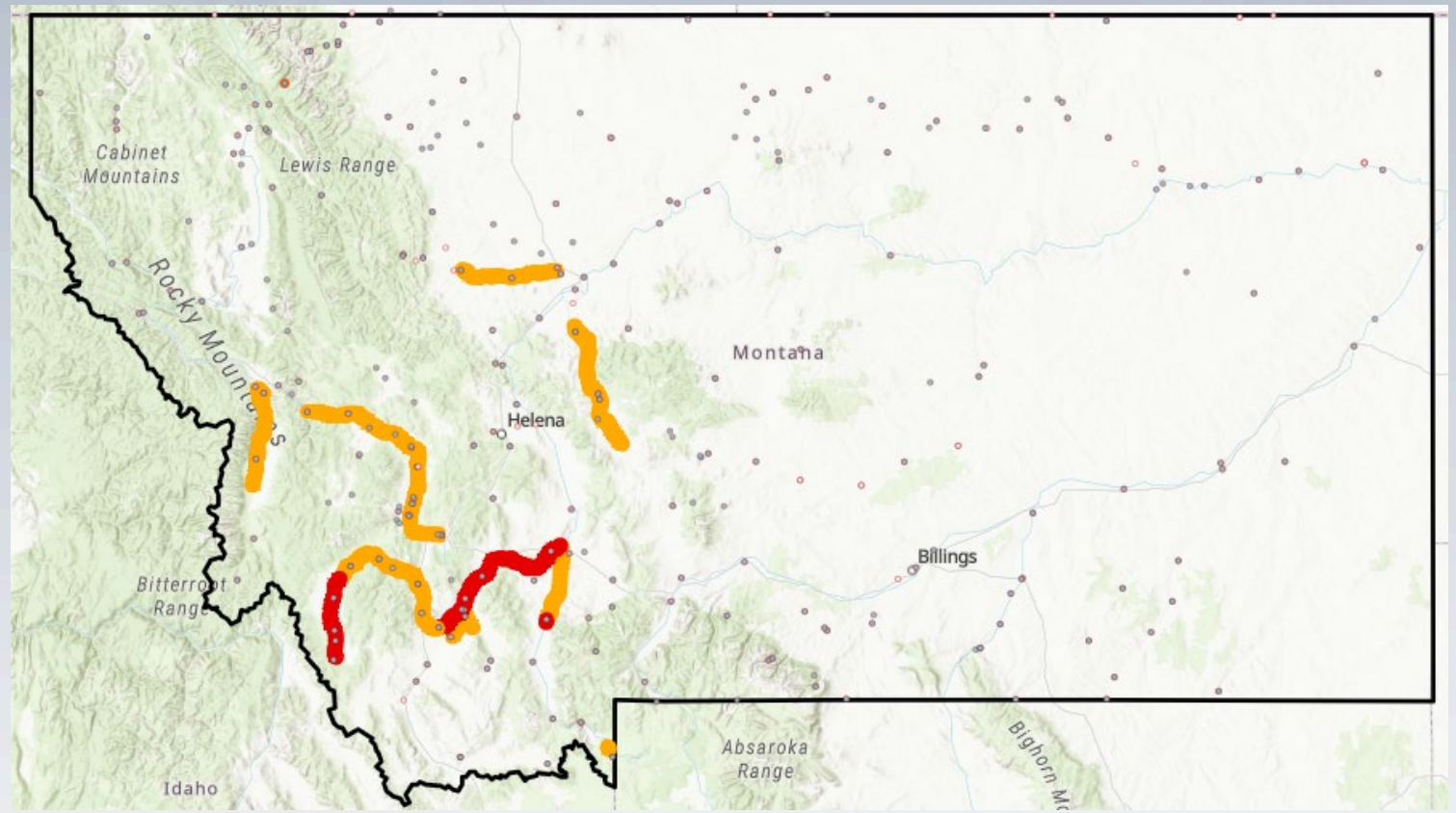
August 15, 2024

Fishing Restrictions

Hoot Owl Restrictions

(2pm-12am):

- Beaverhead River
- Big Hole River (Sections 2, 3 & 4)
- Bitterroot River
- Clark Fork River
- Madison River
- Ruby River
- Silver Bow Creek
- Smith River
- Sun River

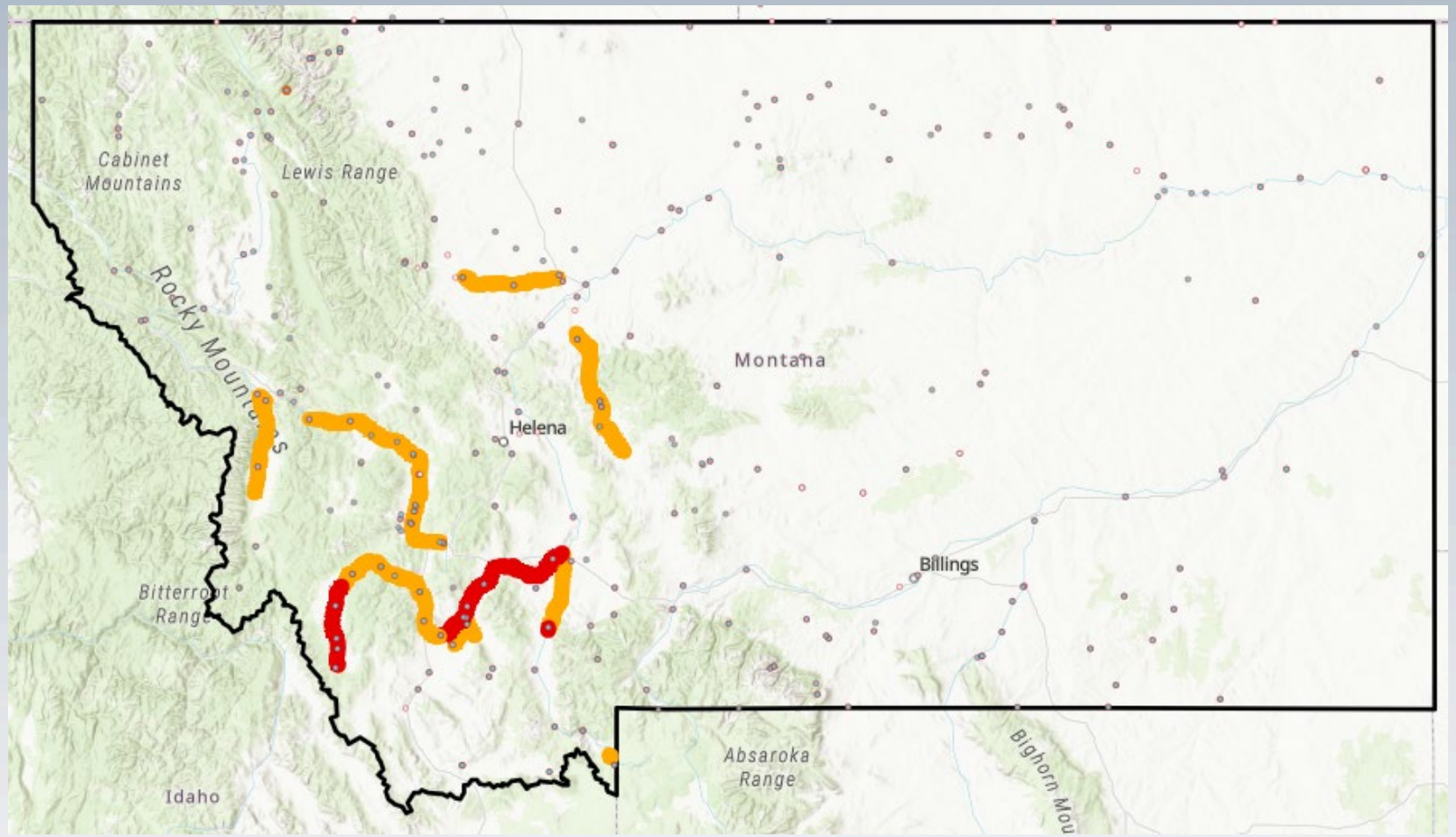


https://fwp.mt.gov/news/current-closures-restrictions/waterbody-closures

Fishing Closures

Prohibits any fishing on the stretch of water body specified.

- Big Hole River (Sections 1 & 5)
- Jefferson River
- Madison River



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Water Right Administration

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

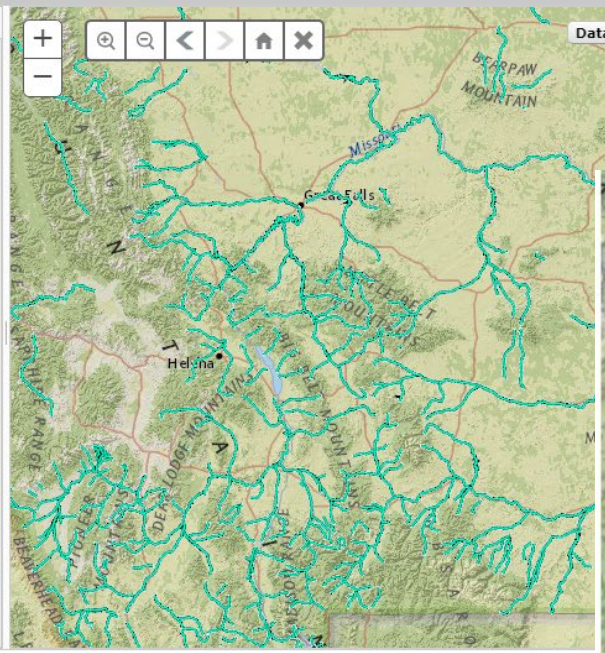
In-stream Water Rights Review

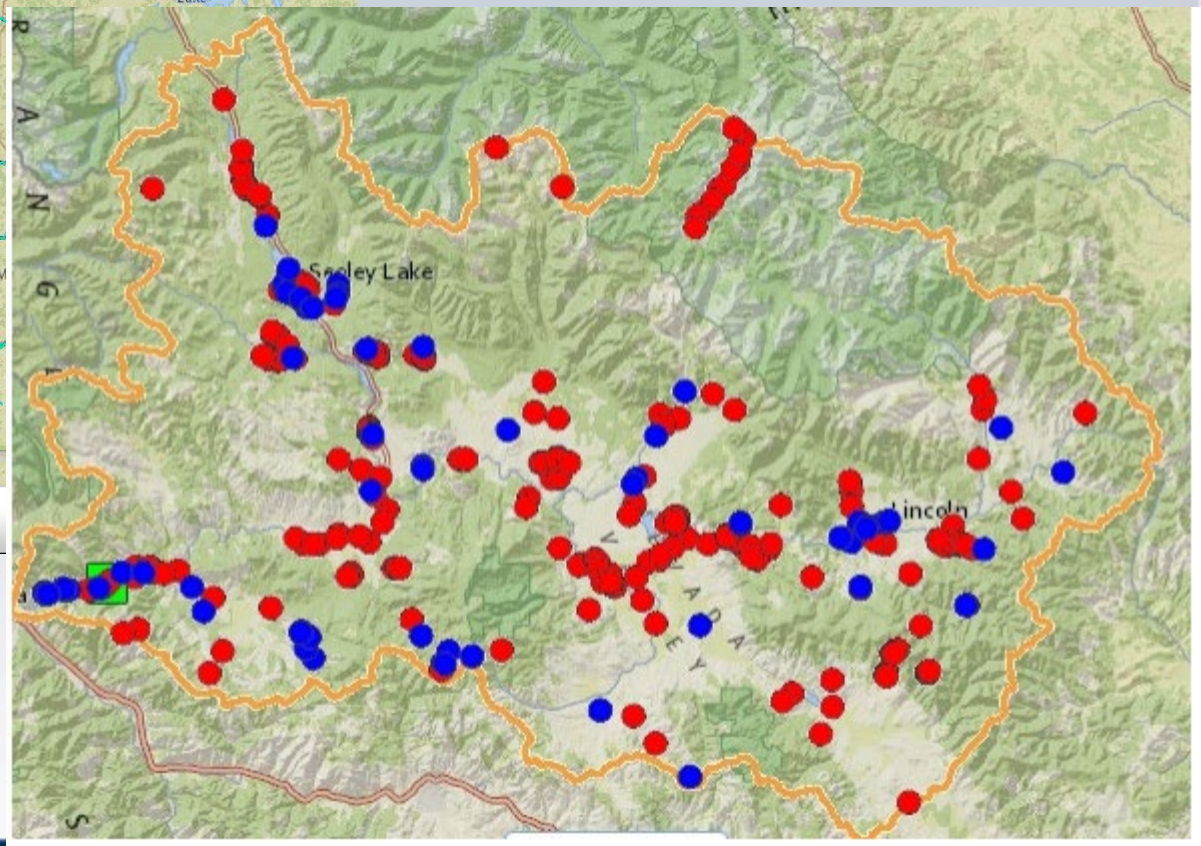
Layers | Legend | Water Rights Review

Step 1: Click on a row in the table below to analyze a catchment.

Catchment	Current Flow (cfs)	Current In-Stream Flow Requirement (cfs)	Current Flow Caclulation
Battle Crk	0	5	+ 0.0 cfs (USGS 06151500)
Beaver Creek Basin	15.2	11	+ 15.2 cfs (USGS 06167500)
Beaver Crk Abv Beaver Crk Res	0	7	+ Unknown (Real-time data not available 40J 08900)
Beaver Crk Abv Reservation Boundary	unknown	0.2	No associated gauges
Beaverhead R	145	200	+ 145.0 cfs (USGS 06018500)
Beaverhead R Abv East Bench Divide Dam	317	200	+ 317.0 cfs (USGS 06016000)
Big Hole River Abv Old Divide Dam	255	800	+ 255.0 cfs (USGS 06025250)
Big Hole River Abv Pintler Creek	73.4	160	+ 73.4 cfs (USGS 06024540)
Big Hole River Basin	101	573	+ 101.0 cfs (USGS 06026420)
Big Spring Crk	137	110	+ 137.0 cfs (USGS 06111800)
Big Spring Crk Abv Cottonwood Crk	137	53.5	+ 137.0 cfs (USGS 06111800)
Bighorn R	2690	2800	+ 2690.0 cfs (USGS 06294500)
Bighorn River Two Leggins Diversion to Afterbay Dam	2030	2500	+ 2030.0 cfs (USGS 06288400)
Bitterroot River Mouth to Stevensville Bridge	580	600	+ 580.0 cfs (USGS 12352500)

Export

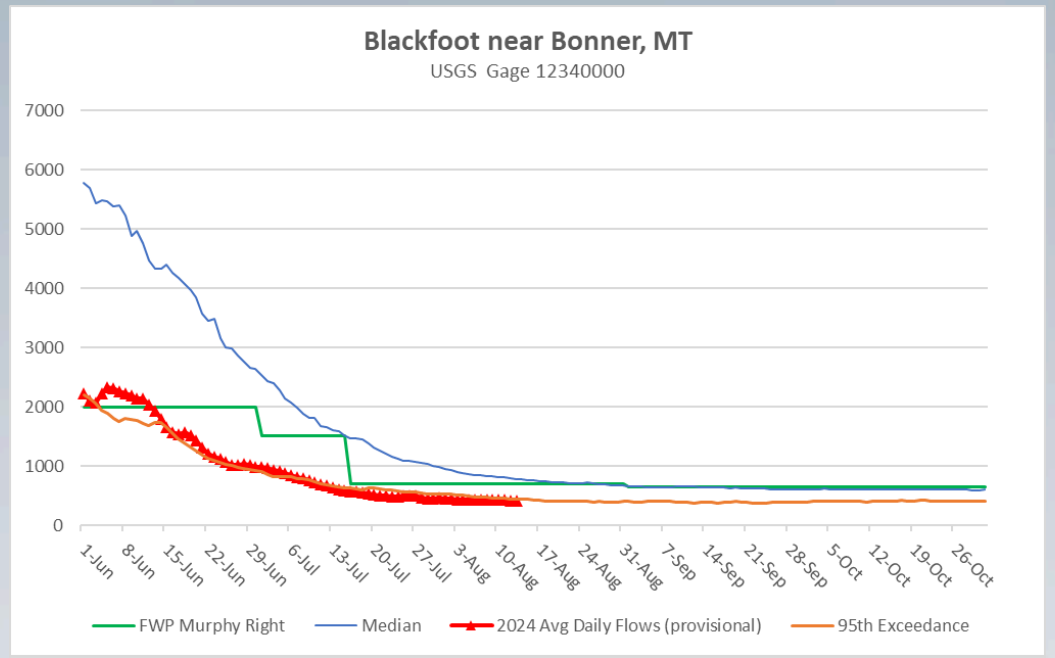


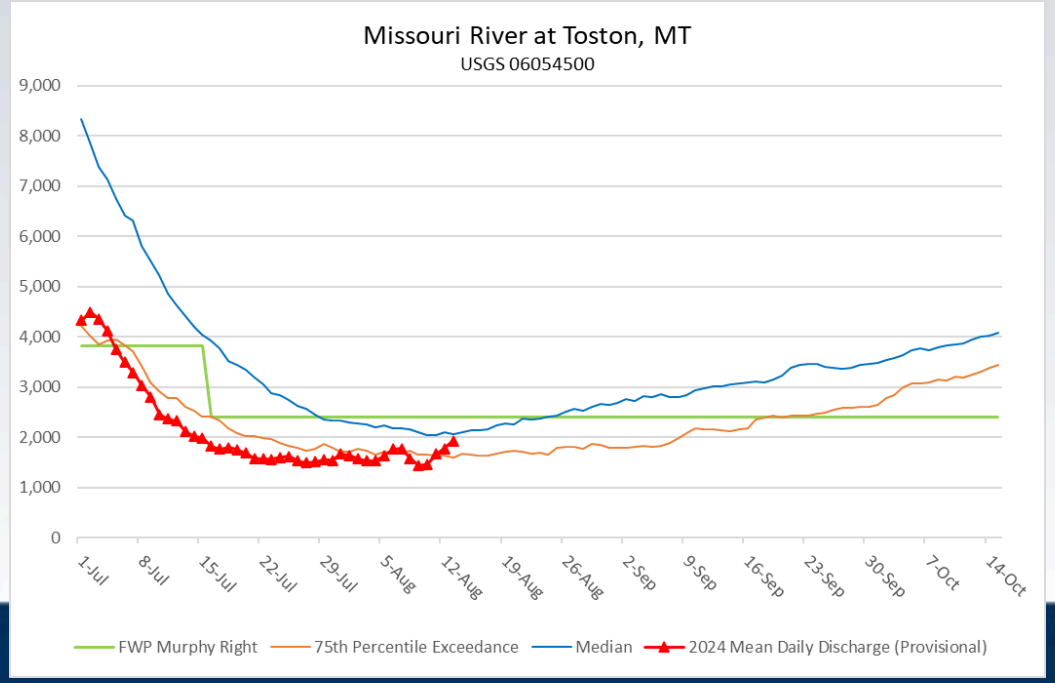


Water Right Administration

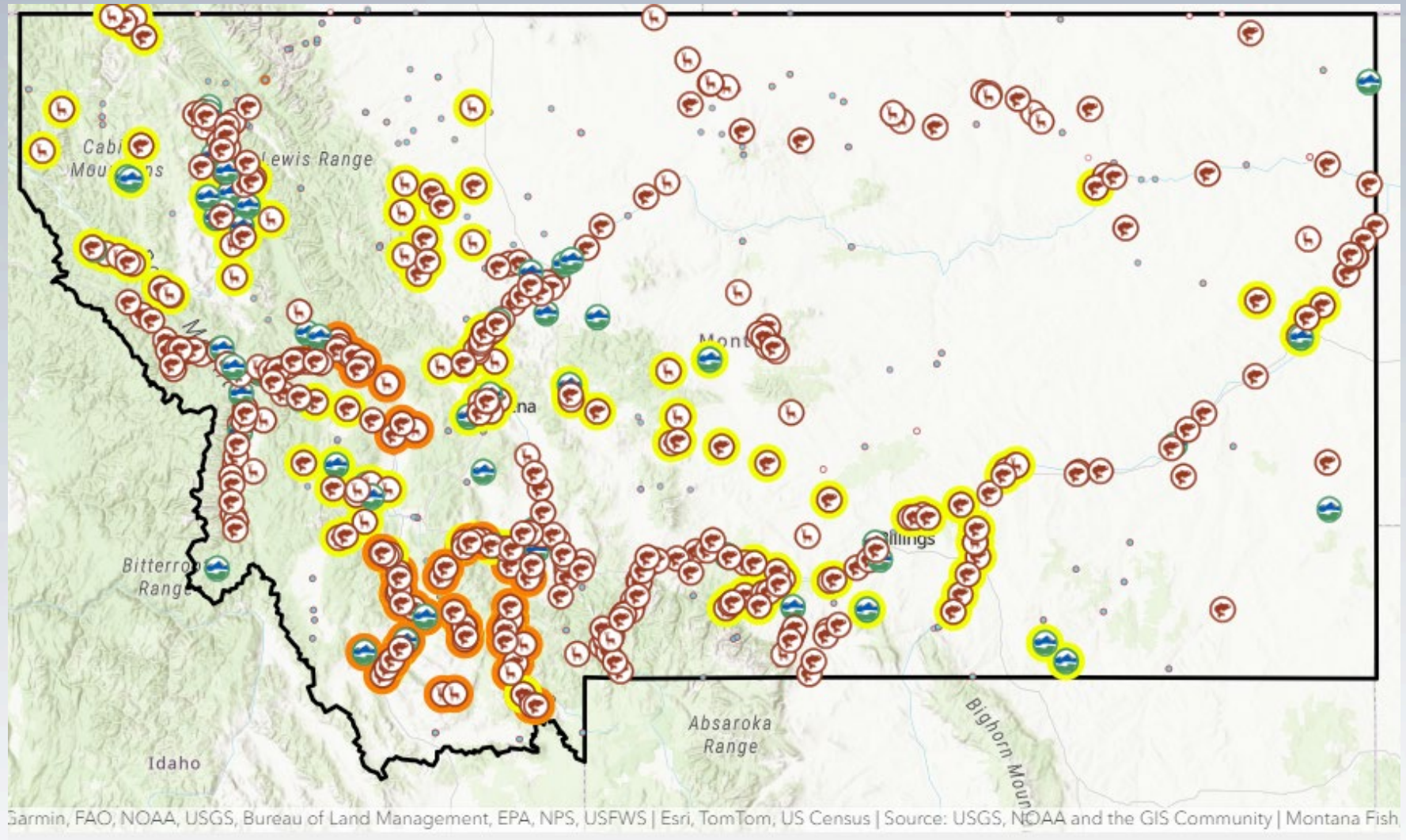
Calls to Junior Water Users:

- Blackfoot River
- Missouri River (Mainstem and Tribs including: Jefferson, Boulder and Beaverhead Rivers)
- Smith River
- Shields River
- Tobacco River
- Gallatin River
- Rock Creek (Clark Fork)-Pending
- Young Creek-Pending





Fire Restrictions



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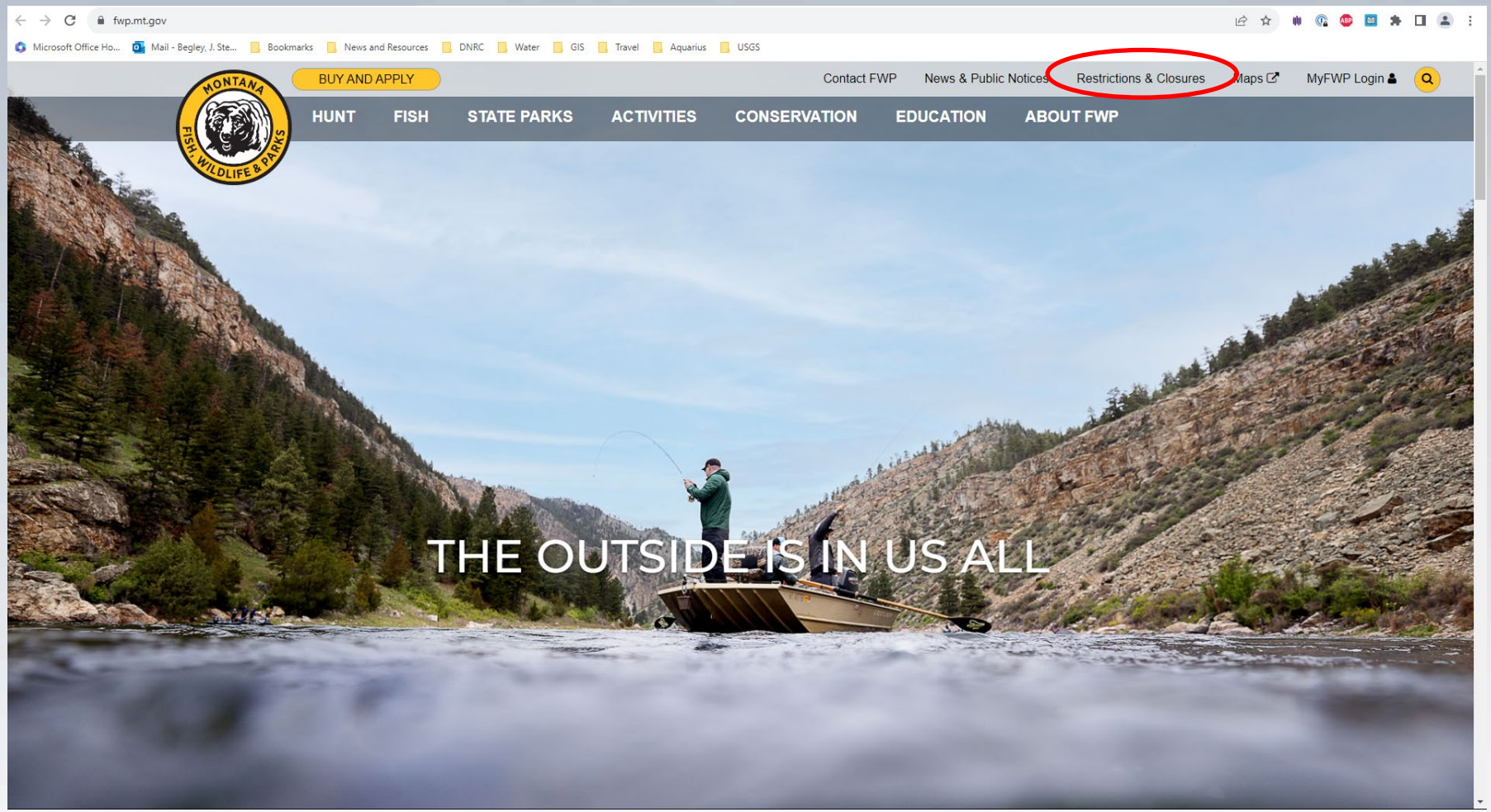
Stay Informed



https://fwp.mt.gov/

Questions?

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