

Lewis and Clark Conservation District

790 Colleen Street, Helena MT 59601 406.502.8591 https://lewisandclarkcd.org

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA August 14, 2025 9:30 am

Lambkin's Restaurant Meeting Room, Lincoln MT and via Zoom (if possible)

https://lewisandclarkcd.org/august-2025-regular-board-meeting/

9:30 am-Call to Order

- Introductions
- Review Governance Calendar for August/September
- Minutes —July 2025
- Financial Statement—July 2025
- Outstanding Bills
- Supervisor absences

Correspondence

Subdivision notice from the county

Public Comment

Reports

Printed reports are absolutely welcome.

NRCS

DNRC

SRWG

MRCDC

LHWG

Helena CORE

Weed District

MACD

Area Meeting

Resolution draft?

Auction Item

Breakouts, Training, session topics

Supervisor Reports

Staff Reports

Old Business

Supervisory Residency Area Resolution & map

Mesonet Project Update FWP-Boat Check Station-Discussion Quarter 2 report-Operations, Website and Social Media Lewis and Clark County Planning Board

New Business

Ten Mile Creek-<u>Comments limited to 5 minutes</u> Request for Grant Sponsorship-Threemile Dam Pollinator Initiative Grant-2026 program

310 Permit Applications

CP-01-25-RV Ranch EME-04-25 RV Ranch

**some of these may not be acted upon due to need for inspections or additional information.

Other Business

<u>Policies/Procedures</u>-Need a committee to review before adoption

Upcoming Events & meetings

August 14 - LCCD Board Meeting-Lincoln 9:30 am

August 19-21 - MCDEO Statewide Employee Training

September 11-LCCD Board Meeting-Helena 1 pm

September 17-MCDEO Roundtable

October 1-MACD Area 6 Meeting-Ennis

October 9-LCCD Board Meeting-Helena 1 pm

November 13-LCCD Board Meeting-Helena 1 pm

November 18-20-MACD Convention Billings Doubletree

December 11-LCCD Board Meeting-Helena 1 pm

Announcements

Next meeting—September 11, 2025, Helena USDA Service Center Field Office, Helena Montana, 1 pm.

MONTH	FULL BOARD FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITIES	BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES	ADMINISTRATOR RESPONSIBILITY OUTSIDE OF BOARD MEETING
	At the Board Meeting	Outside the Board Meeting	Outside (or prior to) Board Meeting
S	Treasurer/Finance Committee duties: (may be included in the Consent Agenda)	Treasurer/Finance Committee <u>Before</u> the Board Meeting	
AUGU	Treasurer's Report July Treasurer's report presented for board approval	Review July financials per board policy and create written report for August meeting minutes	7 days prior to August Board meeting, prepare and forward financial reports to Treasurer/Finance Comm for monthly review per CD policy
	Authorization of Expenses August expenses presented for board approval	Review August expense payments and make recommendation to the board for approval	Filing of Minutes-Submit approved July minutes to County Clerk and Recorder and DNRC's CDB
A	Payroll Taxes July payroll taxes paid & presented for board approval	Review Payroll Tax report to ensure payments have been submitted.	Monitor and facilitate MACD Resolution Process.
	Grant Applications: Applications for DNRC Fall Grant Cycle		Pay August's <u>Payroll Taxes</u>
	CD Accountability Assessment Completion		Make MPERA Payments 1 week after pay day
			Begin to prepare for Supervisor Election filing, if needed.
	Secretary duties:	Designated board members to lead Officer/Committee elections and orientation of new supervisors	
	Minutes July board minutes presented for review & approval	Identify Supervisor openings	
	Signature Presiding officer signs board minutes	Assist with identifying candidates to run for office.	
		Work with the Administrator to educate the public and candidates on expectations and roles and responsibilities of the supervisor position	
	Administrator reports:		
	Filing of Minutes. Minutes are sent to the County Clerk each month.		
	MACD Resolution Filings. Report on filling of Resolutions for MACD consideration.		
	ADDITIONAL BOARD ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND API		
	ACTION ITEM: MACD Resolutions Due September 1st. Board checks that all Resolutions have been submitted to MACD prior to September 1st. Review and approve any resolutions ready for consideration.		
	Other agenda items as needed		

ONTH	FULL BOARD FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITIES	BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES	ADMINISTRATOR RESPONSIBILITY OUTSIDE OF BOARD MEETING
Trops	At the Board Meeting	Outside the Board Meeting	Outside (or prior to) Board Meeting
11603	surer/Finance Committee duties: (may be ded in the Consent Agenda)	Treasurer/Finance Committee Before the Board Meeting	
Y A	reasurer's Report August Treasurer's report presented for board Approval Authorization of Expenses	Review August's financials per board policy and create written report for September meeting minutes Review September expense payments and make	7 days <u>prior</u> to September Board meeting, prepare and forward financial reports to Treasurer/Finance Comm for monthly review per CD policy Filing of Minutes-Submit approved August
S a	September expenses presented for board approval	recommendation to the board for approval	minutes to County Clerk and Recorder and <u>DNRC's</u> <u>CDB</u>
P A a	Payroll Taxes August payroll taxes paid & presented for board approval	Review Payroll Tax report to ensure payments have been submitted.	Pay September's <u>Payroll Taxes</u>
G	Grant Applications: Applications for DNRC Fall Grant Cycle		Make MPERA Payments 1 week after pay day
5 [Ensure paperwork has been submitted for Supervisor Elections.
Secre	etary duties:		Complete quarterly payroll reports and pay UI tax
A	Minutes August board minutes presented for review & Approval		Prepare for MACD Area Meetings and representative election.
	ignature Presiding officer signs board minutes		Organizes and distributes Resolutions for board review and approval. CDA Grant Reporting
Admi	nistrator reports:		Complete <u>3rd quarter payroll reports</u> and pay UI Tax
	Filing of Minutes. Minutes are sent to the County Clerk each month.		Tax
ADDI	TIONAL BOARD ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND API		
a	Review dates of MACD Fall Convention and attendance details.		
S h 1	ACTION ITEM: MACD Resolutions Due by september 1st. Board checks that all Resolutions have been submitted to MACD prior to August 5th. Review and approve any resolutions ready		
A SI SI	or consideration. ACTION ITEM: Review and discuss all resolutions submitted by Area and vote on your district's stance for Area Meeting.		
re N	ACTION ITEM: Identify and appoint a supervisor to epresent your district at the upcoming Area Meeting.		
N	MPORTANT DATE: Area Meeting and Elections of MACD Board Representative (August or September)		

Received financial reports from Chris Evans, Dist Admin, L&C Cons Dist, 08/04/2025

Balance Sheet	Prior Month	Current Month	Difference
Assets			
Checking Account	\$19,277.84	\$10,552.16	
Savings Account	\$228,778.67	\$228,782.55	
CD (cert of deposit) Short Term	\$67,375.82	\$22,375.82	
CD (cert of deposit) 13 Month	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	
CD (cert of deposit) 90 Day	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	
CD (cert of deposit) 6 Month	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	
Total Assets	\$315,432.33	\$306,710.53	\$8,721.80
Payroll Liabilities	\$808.82	\$825.17	
Total Equity	\$314,623.51	\$305,885.36	
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$315,432.33	\$306,710.53	\$8,721.80

The number in Difference column represents the difference in Assets, Liabilities & Equity for the current month, they should match!

Financial Statement	Prior Month end	Current Month start	Difference
Checking Account	\$19,449.17	\$19,277.84	\$0.00
Total Withdrawals (employee pay, savings, cd transfers, etc)	\$19,295.10	\$13,349.90	
Total Deposits (including interest & savings transfers)	\$19,123.77	\$4,624.22	
Ending Balance	\$19,277.84	\$10,552.16	\$0.00

The number in the difference column should be \$0.00, if not, there an issue to be resolved.

Employee Taxes {MPERA, MT State Fund, EFTPS (Fed Taxes), MT Dept of Rev}	\$5,232.46	\$4,940.97	\$291.49
Employee Pay (including pre-tax health benefit)	\$7,678.57	\$7,268.04	\$410.53

The number in the difference columns indicate the differences from last month to the current month

Pro	ofit & Loss Budget vs Actual	Prior Month	Current	Difference
		\$80,196.13	\$71,457.98	\$8,738.15

Notes or Discrepancies: <u>Upon creating this report, I noticed there was 2 errors reported on the Jun report for the Jul meeting. I have corrected that report (attached/enclosed) and used the updated numbers on this report. It was under the Employee Taxes and Employee Pay.</u>

I recommend approving the financial report as presented and paying all the bills

Jeanette Nordahl, Treasurer & Lincoln Area Supervisor

08/04/25

Jun Report for Jul meeting (CORRECTED 08/04/25)

07/06/25 Bd Rpt

Received financial reports from Chris Evans, Dist Admin, L&C Cons Dist, 06/01/2025

Balance Sheet	Prior Month	Current Month	Difference	
Assets				
Checking Account	\$19,449.17	\$19,277.84		
Savings Account	\$288,769.06	\$228,778.67		
CD (cert of deposit)	\$22,375.82	\$67,375.82		
Total Assets	\$330,594.05	\$315,432.33	\$15,161.72	
Liabilities & Equity				
Payroll Liabilities	\$845.89	\$808.82		
Total Equity	\$329,748.16	\$314,623.51		
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$330,594.05	\$315,432.33	\$15,161.72	

The number in Difference column represents the difference in Assets, Liabilities & Equity for the current month, they should match!

Financial Statement	Prior Month end	Current Month start	Difference
Checking Account	\$9,178.77	\$19,449.17	\$0.00
Total Withdrawals (employee pay, savings, cd transfers, etc)	\$20,995.81	\$19,295.10	
Total Deposits (including interest & savings transfers)	\$31,266.21	\$19,123.77	
Ending Balance	\$19,449.17	\$19,277.84	\$0.00

The number in the difference column should be \$0.00, if not, there an issue to be resolved.

Employee Taxes {MPERA, MT State Fund, EFTPS (Fed Taxes), MT Dept of Rev}	\$5,232.46	\$3,377.99	\$1,854.47
★ Employee Pay (including pre-tax health benefit)	\$7,678.57	\$7,648.57	\$30.00

The number in the difference columns indicate the differences from last month to the current month

Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual	Prior Month	Current	Difference
	\$95,320.78	\$80,196.13	\$15,124.65

Notes or Discrepancies: <u>The original financial statement sent to me had an credit card</u>
payment on it for \$192.89. But that also showed on the financial statement at the end of last month. After talking with Chris, she corrected it and sent me an updated financial statement

I recommend approving the financial report as presented and paying all the bills

Jeanette Nordahl, Treasurer & Lincoln Area Supervisor Corrected Employee Taxes & Employee Pay

08/04/25

Lewis & Clark Conservation District Balance Sheet

As of July 31, 2025

	Jul 31, 25
ASSETS Current Assets Checking/Savings 101000 · Valley Bank - Checking	10,552.16
101001 · Valley Bank - Savings 102105 · Valley Bank-CD Short Term 102106 · Valley Bank CD-13 month-2812 102107 · Valley Bank CD-90 day-2790 102108 · Valley Bank CD-6 mo-2804	228,782.55 22,375.82 15,000.00 15,000.00
Total Checking/Savings	306,710.53
Total Current Assets	306,710.53
TOTAL ASSETS	306,710.53
LIABILITIES & EQUITY Liabilities Current Liabilities Other Current Liabilities 201200 · Payroll Liabilities 201202 · MPERA-Employee 201203 · Unemployment Ins. 201205 · 457B	780.07 -54.90 100.00
Total 201200 · Payroll Liabilities	825.17
Total Other Current Liabilities	825.17
Total Current Liabilities	825.17
Total Liabilities	825.17
Equity 260000 · Opening Bal Equity 3900 · Opening Balance Net Income	3,685.52 230,741.86 71,457.98
Total Equity	305,885.36
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	306,710.53

	Jan - Jul 25	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income 310000 · Taxes & Assessments				
311010 · Taxes & Assessments 311010 · County Mill Levy	170,855.89	170,113.00	742.89	100.4%
312372 · Permissive Levy for Benefits	13,616.78	12,000.00	1,616.78	113.5%
Total 310000 · Taxes & Assessments	184,472.67	182,113.00	2,359.67	101.3%
334000 · State Grants				
334005 · Grant Administration Costs	1,891.08	9,000.00	-7,108.92	21.0%
334007 · 310 Funding 334000 · State Grants - Other	0.00 23,299.65	3,500.00 75,000.00	-3,500.00 -51,700.35	0.0% 31.1%
Total 334000 · State Grants	25,190.73	87,500.00	-62,309.27	28.8%
340000 · Charges for Goods and Services				
341009 · Workshops	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
341010 · Sale of Merchandise	55.00	200.00	-145.00	27.5%
$340000\cdot$ Charges for Goods and Services - Other	15.00			
Total 340000 · Charges for Goods and Services	70.00	400.00	-330.00	17.5%
360000 · Other Revenue				
365000 · Contributions and Donations	725.00	1 500 00	-775.00	48.3%
365010 · Annual Sponsor 365000 · Contributions and Donations - Other	2,839.37	1,500.00	-775.00	48.3%
Total 365000 · Contributions and Donations	3,564.37	1,500.00	2,064.37	237.6%
Total 360000 · Other Revenue	3,564.37	1,500.00	2,064.37	237.6%
371000 · Interest Income	33.91	50.00	-16.09	67.8%
Total Income	213,331.68	271,563.00	-58,231.32	78.6%
Gross Profit	213,331.68	271,563.00	-58,231.32	78.6%
Expense				
410000 · General Government				
410540 · Treasury 410551 · Payroll Expenses				
410552 · Wages	67,806.56	120,000.00	-52,193.44	56.5%
410553 · MPERA-Employer	6,191.72	10,884.00	-4,692.28	56.9%
410554 · Workers Comp	990.18	700.00	290.18	141.5%
410555 · Payroll Taxes	5,884.31	11,000.00	-5,115.69	53.5%
410556 · Health Benefits	1,400.00	2,400.00	-1,000.00	58.3%
410557 · PML Health Benefits	3,500.00	12,000.00	-8,500.00	29.2%

	Jan - Jul 25	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
410558 · Health Benefits-Res.Tech. 410551 · Payroll Expenses - Other	4,900.00 136.77	2,400.00 0.00	2,500.00 136.77	204.2% 100.0%
Total 410551 · Payroll Expenses	90,809.54	159,384.00	-68,574.46	57.0%
Total 410540 · Treasury	90,809.54	159,384.00	-68,574.46	57.0%
411800 · Other General Govt Services 411830 · Association Dues	0.00	900.00	-900.00	0.0%
Total 411800 · Other General Govt Services	0.00	900.00	-900.00	0.0%
Total 410000 · General Government	90,809.54	160,284.00	-69,474.46	56.7%
480000 · Conservation of Nat Res. 480200 · Supplies 480210 · Office Supplies 480211 · Marketing	151.93 0.00	2,000.00 200.00	-1,848.07 -200.00	7.6% 0.0%
480250 · Supplies for Resale	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
480200 · Supplies - Other	245.46			
Total 480200 · Supplies	397.39	2,700.00	-2,302.61	14.7%
480300 · Purchased Services 480304 · Employee Cell Phones 480305 · Phone Stipend 480306 · Google Workspace 480310 · Postage 480330 · Publicity, Dues and Subscriptio	819.26 0.00 302.40 8.19	1,350.00 1,200.00 520.00 400.00	-530.74 -1,200.00 -217.60 -391.81	60.7% 0.0% 58.2% 2.0%
480330 · Publicity, Dues and Subscriptio 480331 · Advertising/Publicity/Marketing 480333 · Subscriptions 480330 · Publicity, Dues and Subscriptio - Other	278.78 1,247.92 714.99	1,275.00	-27.08	97.9%
Total 480330 · Publicity, Dues and Subscriptio	2,241.69	1,275.00	966.69	175.8%
480360 · Repairs and Maintenance 480370 · Travel Expenses 480380 · Education	1.79 1,273.86	1,000.00 5,000.00	-998.21 -3,726.14	0.2% 25.5%
480381 · Seminar Expenses 480382 · Training 480383 · Camp Sponsorships 480385 · Envirothon	0.00 1,299.70 1,000.00 0.00	500.00 4,500.00 1,000.00 2,500.00	-500.00 -3,200.30 0.00 -2,500.00	0.0% 28.9% 100.0% 0.0%
480380 · Education - Other	18.90			
Total 480380 · Education	2,318.60	8,500.00	-6,181.40	27.3%
Total 480300 · Purchased Services	6,965.79	19,245.00	-12,279.21	36.2%

	Jan - Jul 25	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
480400 · District Projects				
480410 · Meeting Expense				
480411 · Board Meetings	267.75	800.00	-532.25	33.5%
480412 · MACD	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
480413 · Virtual Mtg. Account	165.90	200.00	-34.10	83.0%
480414 · Area 6	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
480415 · Employee Organization	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
480416 · Local Work Group	0.00	150.00	-150.00	0.0%
Total 480410 · Meeting Expense	433.65	2,300.00	-1,866.35	18.9%
480417 · Pollinator Initiative	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.0%
480420 · 310 Expenses	408.32	450.00	-41.68	90.7%
480400 · District Projects - Other	69.66			
Total 480400 · District Projects	911.63	3,000.00	-2,088.37	30.4%
480460 · Bank Service Charges				
480462 · PayPal fee	-2.55	50.00	-52.55	-5.1%
480460 · Bank Service Charges - Other	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
Total 480460 · Bank Service Charges	-2.55	100.00	-102.55	-2.6%
480700 · Grants, Contributions, Donation 480730 · Donations 480740 · Watershed Support 480742 · SRWG	4,000.00			
480740 · Watershed Support - Other	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00	0.0%
Total 480740 · Watershed Support	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	100.0%
480730 · Donations - Other	3,190.00	2,434.00	756.00	131.1%
Total 480730 · Donations	7,190.00	6,434.00	756.00	111.8%
480770 · State 480700 · Grants, Contributions, Donation - Other	29,290.90 250.00	75,000.00	-45,709.10	39.1%
Total 480700 · Grants, Contributions, Donation	36,730.90	81,434.00	-44,703.10	45.1%
480900 · Capital Outlay 480940 · Machinery and Equipment	0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00	0.0%
Total 480900 · Capital Outlay	0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00	0.0%
				3.070
otal 480000 · Conservation of Nat Res.	45,003.16	109,479.00	-64,475.84	41.1%

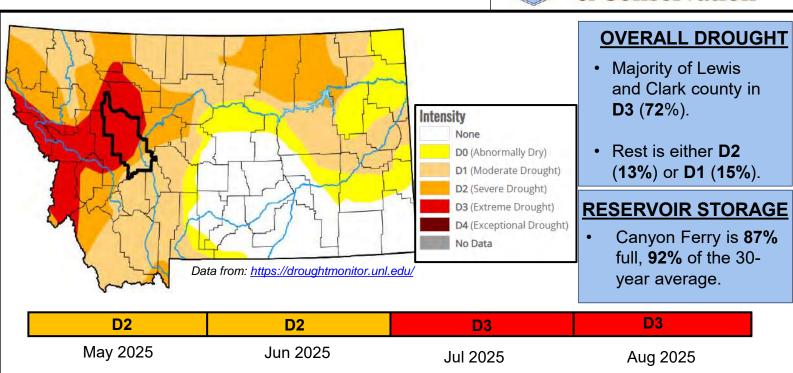
	Jan - Jul 25	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
510000 · Miscellaneous 510300 · Other Unallocated Costs 510330 · Comp Liability Insurance 510335 · Surety Bond	4,926.00 210.00			
Total 510300 · Other Unallocated Costs	5,136.00			
Total 510000 · Miscellaneous	5,136.00			
Total Expense	140,948.70	269,763.00	-128,814.30	52.2%
Net Ordinary Income	72,382.98	1,800.00	70,582.98	4,021.3%
Other Income/Expense Other Expense 480600 · Other Expenses				
480602 · Water Test Cost Share	75.00	450.00	-375.00	16.7%
480608 · Montana Biological Weed Control	850.00	850.00	0.00	100.0%
480609 · Augusta FFA	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
Total 480600 · Other Expenses	925.00	1,800.00	-875.00	51.4%
Total Other Expense	925.00	1,800.00	-875.00	51.4%
Net Other Income	-925.00	-1,800.00	875.00	51.4%
Net Income	71,457.98	0.00	71,457.98	100.0%

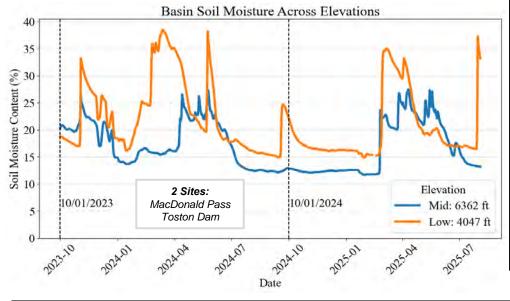
Lewis & Clark Conservation District Month End Financial Statement As of July 31, 2025

Туре	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount	Balance
101000 · Valley Bank - Checking					19,277.84	
Check	07/02/2025	DC-Chris	Google	Google Workspace Account	-43.20	19,234.64
Liability Check	07/03/2025	ACH Pymt	MPERA	6358	-880.08	18,354.56
Deposit	07/07/2025	,		Deposit	1,278.22	19,632.78
Check	07/09/2025	5525	Chris Evans	Travel reimbursment	-118.86	19,513.92
Check	07/09/2025	5526	Stan Frasier	Travel Reimbursement -June 2025	-119.00	19,394.92
Check	07/09/2025	5527	MCDEO	Inv1066, 1065, 2025 SET Training	-250.00	19,144.92
Check	07/09/2025	DC-Joe	Rock Hand Hardware	buckle	-1.79	19,143.13
Check	07/09/2025	DC-Chris	Brooklyn Pizza	Board meeting-July	-116.75	19,026.38
Paycheck	07/11/2025	DD	Evans, Christina M.		-2,079.49	16,946.89
Paycheck	07/11/2025	DD	Kremer-Herman, Josep		-1,366.00	15,580.89
Check	07/11/2025	DD	Kremer-Herman, Josep	pre-tax health benefit	-188.53	15,392.36
Check	07/11/2025	DC-Joe	USPS	Stamp	-0.73	15,391.63
Check	07/11/2025	DC-Chris	Verizon Business	Account #442716113-00001	-117.54	15,274.09
Deposit	07/15/2025			Deposit	2,332.78	17,606.87
Check	07/16/2025	DC-Joe	High Country Plaza-Hel	Fuel for truck	-55.84	17,551.03
Liability Check	07/18/2025	ACH Pymt	MPERA	6358	-880.07	16,670.96
Check	07/22/2025	DC-Joe	Thriftway	Fuel for truck	-57.48	16,613.48
Deposit	07/24/2025		-	Deposit	100.00	16,713.48
Check	07/24/2025	DC-Chris	USPS	310 Certified mail	-20.96	16,692.52
Paycheck	07/25/2025	DD	Evans, Christina M.		-2,079.49	14,613.03
Paycheck	07/25/2025	DD	Kremer-Herman, Josep		-1,366.00	13,247.03
Check	07/25/2025	DD	Kremer-Herman, Josep	pre-tax health benefit	-188.53	13,058.50
Check	07/25/2025	ACH Pymt	FNBO	Credit card payment act ending in	-238.74	12,819.76
Deposit	07/29/2025			Deposit	913.08	13,732.84
Liability Check	07/31/2025	ACH Pymt	EFTPS	81-0359501	-2,788.90	10,943.94
Liability Check	07/31/2025	ACH Pymt	Montana Dept. of Reve	4020971-002-WTH	-391.92	10,552.02
Deposit	07/31/2025			Interest	0.14	10,552.16
Total 101000 ·	Valley Bank - Ch	necking			-8,725.68	10,552.16
	ley Bank - Savir	ngs				228,778.67
Deposit	07/31/2025			Interest	3.88	228,782.55
Total 101001 ·	Valley Bank - Sa	ivings			3.88	228,782.55
	ley Bank-CD She					22,375.82
	Valley Bank-CD	311011 TEITH				22,375.82
TOTAL					-8,721.80	261,710.53

Upper Missouri Water Supply Report August 4, 2025



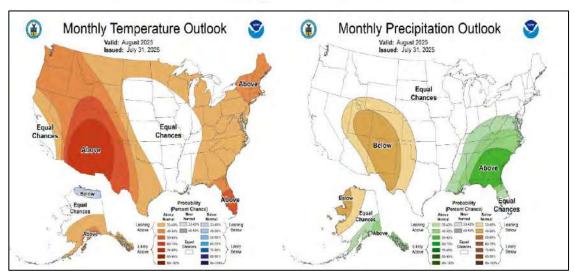




SOIL MOISTURE (8" DEPTH)

- At low elevations, soil
 moisture is high compared to
 last year (33% vs. 16.2%).
 Most likely due to the recent
 rains.
- At mid elevations, soil moisture is slightly higher than last year (13.2% vs. 12.6%).

Data from: https://climate.umt.edu/mesonet/



AUGUST OUTLOOK

- Over the next 1-2 weeks, cooler than normal temps and higher chance for rain.
- By the end of August, near-normal precip and slightly abovenormal temps.

Data:

https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/

PRECIPITATION

- Since Jan 1 2025, Helena has received
 8.14 inches of precipitation (NWS).
- Received 0.93 inches in June and 0.66 inches in July.
- In the Upper Missouri basin, the average summer precipitation for Water Year 2025 is 92% of normal. Higher than last year (83%).

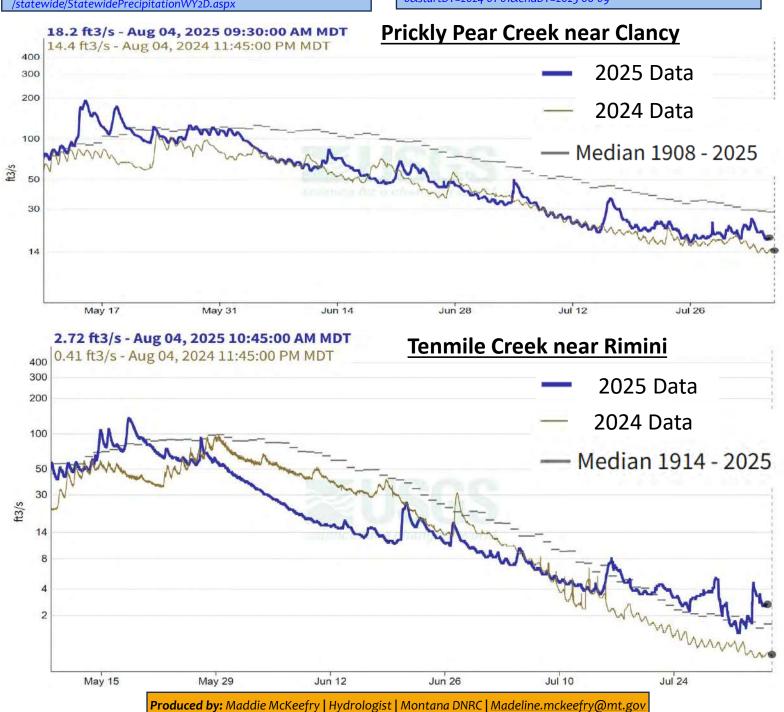
Data:

https://mslservices.mt.gov/geographic_information/maps/watersupply/statewide/StatewidePrecipitationWY2D.aspx

STREAMFLOW

- Prickly Pear Creek (PPC) is currently at the 25th percentile.
- Tenmile Creek is tracking between the median and mean at both sites.
- Both PPC and Tenmile seemed to have increased flows after the recent rains.

Data from: https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring-location/o6o6150o/#dataTypeId=continuous-ooo6o-o&startDT=2024-01-01&endDT=2025-06-09





REPORT TO MT CONSERVATION DISTRICTS AUGUST 2025

Catey's Comments

Hello CDs!

The August report includes some updates featured in the CDB newsletter, please refer to the newsletter for more detailed information.

Important update pertaining to legal services - DNRC is no longer able to provide legal services for CDs. MACD will now provide legal services. CDs should reach out to their county attorney as a first stop for legal services.

CDB has rolled out a new procurement resource document. It includes procurement guidance, templates, checklists, and other resources.

The FY26 P3 Grant Cycle 1 opens September 1st and closes October 15th.

Reminder - CDB has rolled out new Model Operations Policies and Procedures (Model Ops). These Model Ops go hand-in-hand with the Accountability Assessment and Governance Calendar documents and are meant to help simplify and clarify laws related to CDs.

CDB will host two Model Ops Q&A sessions via Zoom. The 1^{st} Q&A session is on August 1^{st} from 11-12 pm. The 2^{nd} Q&A session is on August 29^{th} from 11-12 pm. The Q&A Zoom meeting links and more information on the Model Ops can be found below.

Let me know if you have any questions.

CD LEGAL SERVICES

- As previously announced, DNRC is no longer able to provide legal support to CDs due to the potential
 for conflicts of interest between the Department and CDs. As such, MACD has assumed the role of
 providing these services.
- Pursuant to Sec. <u>76-15-319</u>, <u>MCA</u>, districts should reach out to their county attorney as a first stop for legal services. If they are unable to assist, districts can hire their own legal counsel or work through MACD legal services.

NEW CDB PROCUREMENT RESOURCE DOCUMENT

- The CDB has rolled out a new procurement resource document for CDs.
- The "Procurement White Paper for CDs" document includes:
 - Limits by category
 - Definitions
 - Worksheets to determine type of procurement
 - Templates, e.g. limited solicitation
 - Checklists by procurement type
 - Other important procurement information
- You can find the document on our <u>Resource Documents</u> page under Procurement Resources.

FY26 P3 CYCLE 1 OPENS SEPTEMBER 1ST AND CLOSES OCTOBER 15TH

- The FY26 Planning, Project, and Pollinator Grant Cycle 1 runs from September 1st to October 15th.
- As in previous grant cycles, submitted applications will be featured online for viewing and public comment. Applicants will be required to upload a project photo or the CD's logo to accompany the project synopsis online.
- CDs submitting multiple applications must provide a prioritize statement in their submission.
- Applications must be submitted via Submittable at: https://grants.dnrc.mt.gov/submit

NEW CD MODEL OPERATIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- The Model Ops document can be found here: Model Operations Policies and Procedures 2025
- The Model Ops are part of a 3-part process to provide compliance and accountability tools and resources for CDs to better follow the law and other regulations and polices.
- The 3-part process includes:
 - 1. Accountability Assessment
 - 2. Governance Calendar
 - 3. Model Operating Policies and Procedures
- The Model Ops are meant to simplify and provide clarity on the laws included in the Accountability
 Assessment. The Model Ops create consistency in CD operations across the state and the policies will
 provide support and consistency for staff and supervisor transition.
- The Model Ops are separated into 3 sections:
 - 1. Finance
 - 2. District Operations
 - 3. Supervisor Elections and Governance
- These policies can be modeled to fit your CD's needs. Your CD should integrate any current policies. The policies and procedures can be adopted in stages.
- If your CD decides to adopt new model policies and procedures:
 - Policies must be adopted by a quorum at a publicly noticed board meeting.
 - If adopted, the CD must follow the adopted policies and procedures.
- The EO has a recording of the initial Roundtable training on their website.
- CDB will host two Model Ops Q&A sessions.
 - The 1st Q&A session is August 1st 11:00pm 12:00pm
 - 1st session Zoom meeting link:
 - https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/86871004894?pwd=hnFznS4syuCcGPfmmrYodzlclsCz3r.1
 - The 2nd Q&A session is August 29th 11:00pm 12:00pm.
 - 2nd session Zoom meeting link:
 - https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/88391755023?pwd=wa7e7pV2TtWYcNnVC45Ar3YveQRIHv.1

LINCOLN COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED DEPT REALTOR WORKSHOP

• The Lincoln County Noxious Weed Department is hosting an educational workshop on August 12th about the responsibilities of Real Estate Professionals pertaining to noxious weeds and other invasive species. You can find more information here: Realtor Workshop

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEADLINES

August 1 Model Operations Q&A Session 1, Virtual
August 29 Model Operations Q&A Session 2, Virtual
September 1 FY26 P3 Cycle 1 Opens, Submittable.

Resolutions Due, MACD

Please contact me if you would like me to attend meetings via Zoom or in person.



Catey Bauer | Conservation District Specialist Conservation Districts Bureau, CARDD Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation 1539 Eleventh Avenue, Helena, MT 59601

PHONE: 406-465-0948 EMAIL: catey.bauer@mt.gov



SRWG Update to LCCD, August 2025

- Due to the Sun River bridge replacement project, the Sun River will be CLOSED to all recreational activities in the construction zone June 15 November 15. Expect delays on Sun Canyon road; if you need to access the canal road, it's best to do so from Choteau. If that is not possible, contact project manager Matt Poppe (406) 836-0019 to coordinate.
- Low water across the watershed this year. Affecting irrigation. SRWG coordinated three water management calls this summer with major water users.
 - o GID: off for the season, FSID: mid-August anticipated turn-off
 - o The river is currently under hoot owl restrictions for fishing.
- Bashin' Trash river cleanup was Aug 2. Participation has been declining so we are discussing revamping the program. Will organize a call with past team captains and supporters around January.
- Water quality monitoring is underway for the season. Need volunteers, contact Madison.
- Muddy Creek design team is now incorporating comments received from landowners and the technical advisory team into 90% design. There will be a public meeting when design is ready for review. Working also on monitoring plan.
- SRWG has released an RFQ for watershed-scale project planning. Thanks to Chris for participation. Will be a more detailed-version of projects described in the WRP and other past assessments and plans, with strategic work prioritization. Goal is to set SRWG up for large, watershed-scale funding programs to keep us busy for the next 10 years or so
- SRWG will be applying for BSWC support for 2026, including funding programs. Will be looking for letters of support. Thanks to Chris for help! Also includes a search for office space, which is a big and exciting move.
- SRWG is losing a board member in January. If you have a recommendation of someone
 with a strong agricultural background, please contact Tracy or Madison. Must live or work in
 the Sun River watershed.

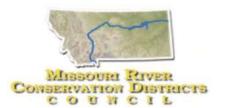
Coming events – see website for details

October 15 Water Management Working Group & SRWG board meetings, at HPCD

January 17 SRWG board meeting, location TBD

April 15 Water Management Working Group & SRWG board meetings, location TBD

MRCDC PO Box 118 Winnett, MT 59087



Phone: (406) 454-0056 <u>mrcdc@macdnet.org</u> www.missouririvercouncil.info

August 6, 2025

Re: July MRCDC Coordinator Report

MRCDC Council Members, Partners, and District Administrators:

Here are the activities the Missouri River Conservation Districts Council was up to during the month of July.

First off, registration and hotel reservations for this year's River Rendezvous is due this Friday, August 8! Below is the information flyer for more details. If you have questions, please let me know! The MRCDC Quarterly meeting will be the morning of Monday, August 25 at 9:30am, followed by the tour of the Milk River starting at 1:30pm continuing to Tuesday morning, August 26.

We are still working to gather additional irrigator surveys over the summer before creating a final document of results. Cameron Skinner is continuing to reach out to irrigators.

The Milk River Watershed Alliance committee had a productive meeting approving updated MRWA Guidelines and approved our work plan. With no meeting in August, the next meeting will be September 23 at 7:30am.

Our current DNRC-CDB 707 grant is set to expire September 30, 2025, not the end of fiscal year. We applied for a new grant through Submittable that will begin on October 1, 2025. We have been awarded \$100,000 but still need to complete finalizing paperwork and a budget amendment due to the decrease in funds compared to what was asked for.

The Montana legislative interim committees, Environmental Quality Council (EQC) and Water Policy Interim Committee (WPIC) both met this month. Both ended up discussing items that pertain to conservation districts including the 310 law and updates regarding the Fox Hills – Hell Creek (FHHC) Aquifer study bill. The MT Bureau of Mines and Geology gave a brief update on the FHHC study, sharing how they have the data they will be going through and modeling for the needed information on the FHHC Aquifer and the decline in head of the aquifer. A more in depth presentation on findings of their data research will be presented next summer to WPIC.

Other meetings I participated in or listened to over the month were the PCCD Board meeting and CEMIST.

If you have any questions or follow up about the report or anything MRCDC, I can be reached at 406-454-0056 and mrcdc@macdnet.org.

Sincerely,

Molly Masters

Molly Masters

MRCDC Coordinator

COMING UP

Columna or				
		15:	MACD Board meeting	
August		16-17:	MWCC Watershed Symposium	
8:	RR Registration due	17:	CEMIST meeting	
12:	CMR CWG Planning Committee	23:	MRWA committee (7:30am)	
14:	Ft. Peck Stakeholder meeting	23:	MRCDC Exec. Committee (1:00pm)	
15:	CARDD Grant Stakeholder group	24:	MACD Area 1 meeting, Sheridan CD	
18:	MACD Board meeting	24:	PCCD Board meeting	
19:	MRRIC All member webinar	25:	MACD Area 3 meeting, Big Sandy CD	
20:	R4R committee meeting	TBD:	CMR CWG planning committee	
20:	CEMIST meeting			
22:	Molly out pm	Octobe	<u>er</u>	
25:	MRCDC Quarterly meeting, Malta	1:	MACD Area 6 meeting, Madison CD	
25-26:	River Rendezvous, Malta	8-10:	MT American Water Resources	

<u>September</u>

27:

1: Labor Day

4-7: **GLC Grazing Expo**

10: WIWG full group meeting

12: **CARDD Grant Stakeholder goup**

26-28: Test Flow Stakeholder meetings

PCCD Board meeting

Association (AWRA) Conference 13: Columbus Day **MACDD Board meeting** 20: 22: **CEMIST** meeting MRCDC Exec. Committee (1:00pm) 28: 29: **PCCD Board meeting**

Registration Open!

River Rendezvous Matta, M August 25-26, 2025

Join us in touring and learning about the Milk River irrigation system from the Dodson Dam to below Vandalia Dam.

- The tour will be the afternoon of Monday and the morning of Tuesday.
- A room block has been created at the Great Northern Hotel.
 - Listed under 'River Rendezvous'.
 - Dates available under this block are 8/24 to 8/26.
 - Must reserve by Friday, August 8.
 - Total cost per night is \$99.36 for a double queen room and \$93.96 for a single king room.
 - First come, first served.
- Register at www.EventBrite.com.
 - Search '2025 River Rendezvous'.
 - Registration closes <u>Friday</u>, <u>August 8</u>.
- Registration costs (additional credit card fees will apply at check out):
 - Day 1 afternoon \$10
 - Day 1 evening \$25
 - o Day 2 \$30
- Additional information, including the draft agenda, is available at our website.



website: MissouriRiverCouncil.info

email: mrcdc@macdnet.org

phone: 406-454-0056

(direct link: 2025 River Rendezvous Tickets)

MACD RESOLUTION SUBMITTAL FORM:

1. Policy Statement

THIS FORM IS FOR POLICY RESOLUTIONS ONLY!

Please note that there are three different types of resolutions and associated formats. Please make sure you are choosing the correct one for your chosen purpose.

- 1. Policy Statements to guide advocacy and legislative activity.
- 2. Legislative Directives. Resolutions that become bills for legislative advocacy and support.
- 3. National Directives. Resolutions for submission to NACD for consideration for support of regional and/or national initiatives.

Policy statements direct the action of MACD in advocacy and legislative outcomes. They are meant to act as general guidelines, giving MACD authority and outlining the parameters of action. For example, during the legislative session, if a bill comes up related to invasive species, the MACD legislative committee will look to policy statements to guide MACD action. MACD Policy Statements passed by the membership will be captured in a MACD Policy Book. All Policy Statements will have an automatic five-year review for reinstatement, amendment, or sunset.

Sponsors are asked to review the Resolution process guide and resolutions policy library beforehand - both available on the MACD Resolutions webpage.

This information will be submitted in the google form on the MACD Resolutions webpage or emailed as a word document to rebecca@macdnet.org with 'Resolution submission' in the subject line.

- EMAIL * admin@lewisandclarkcd.org
- 2. SPONSORING DISTRICT * Lewis and Clark Conservation District

3. **RESOLUTION TITLE ***Requirement to Adhere to MACD Resolution Process

4. BACKGROUND DESCRIBING ISSUE *

(Please clearly describe for Committee and MACD Board discussion; This will not be included in the MACD Policy Book. This is generally where background information that would be in "whereas" statements should go). This information will be kept on file at MACD. The sponsoring district should also keep a copy of the final resolution for their records.

In 2025, a conservation district proposed state legislation (SB 472) without first submitting the proposal through the established MACD resolution process. The bill had the potential to impact all conservation districts in Montana, yet no opportunity was provided for input or consensus from other districts. This unilateral action undermined the collaborative nature of MACD's policy development framework and placed other districts—such as the Lewis and Clark Conservation District—in difficult positions with state agency partners. It created the appearance that multiple districts had supported or initiated the bill, damaging trust, straining relationships, and resulting in an embarrassing and politically harmful rift within the conservation district community.

5. SPONSOR(S) ACTIONS TO DATE *

(What has been done to address the issue, which agencies and organizations have also addressed this?)

To date, no formal action or response has been taken to address the situation. The conservation district in question pursued state-level legislation (SB 472) that impacted other conservation districts without engaging in the MACD resolution process. No punitive measures or official review were conducted, and the matter highlighted a gap in MACD's ability to enforce procedural accountability.

6. ACTUAL POLICY STATEMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN MACD POLICY BOOK IF ADOPTED

(Please clearly and concisely, using active verbs, state the specific authority and action to direct MACD; Policy statements should make sense even without the background. THIS IS GENERALLY WHERE THE CONTENT OF A "THEREFORE" STATEMENT WOULD GO.)

If a Conservation District in Montana initiates, promotes, or authors legislation at the state level that has implications for any Conservation District other than their own, and does so without first submitting the proposal through the established Montana Association of conservation districts (MACD) resolution process, MACD shall not support the legislation unless the MACD Board determines it to be an emergency issue.

In such cases, the authoring conservation district shall be ineligible to receive MACD support, excluding basic services such as website and email hosting, for a period of one calendar year. An emergency issue is defined as a matter arising at the state legislative level that poses an immediate and substantial threat to the legal authority, operational capacity, or core funding of all or a majority of Montana's conservation districts, and for which action through the normal MACD resolution process is not feasible. Determination of an emergency issue shall be made by a vote of the MACD Board of Directors.

7. HOW WILL YOUR DISTRICT CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AND BE INVOLVED WITH THIS POLICY STATEMENT/STANCE? *

The Lewis and Clark Conservation District will continue to actively participate as a member of MACD and remain committed to following the established resolution process when proposing legislation that may affect other conservation districts. We will also advocate for adherence to this process among our peers to uphold transparency, accountability, and unity within the statewide network.

8. ARE THERE ANY EXISTING MACD POLICIES THAT THIS WOULD IMPACT OR INTERACT WITH? *

None currently identified. This resolution reinforces the importance of the existing MACD resolution process but does not conflict with or amend any known existing MACD policies.

9. HOW WOULD THIS POLICY IMPACT MACD? * (budget, staff time, political capital, partnerships, legislative capacity, etc)

This policy would create greater predictability for MACD's lobbying efforts and reinforce unity among member districts when engaging in statewide legislative advocacy. By requiring the use of the established resolution process, it would help MACD conserve political capital, maintain consistent messaging, and ensure that staff and board resources are directed toward initiatives with broad member support.

10. WOULD THIS POLICY STATEMENT IMPACT THE STATE OF MONTANA BUDGET? IF SO, HOW? *

No. This policy statement pertains solely to internal MACD procedures and member district
conduct. It does not propose or require any changes to the State of Montana's budget or state
agency operations.

11. MEETING AND DATE ADOPTED BY SPONSORING ENTITY

Chair

Lewis and Clark Conservation District Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting, held August 14, 2025.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE(S) AND TITLE(S) * Please type your name and title	
Jeff Ryan	Date



CD Supervisors and staff - please share with your boards. Thank you!

Dear Conservation District Supervisors,

MACD looks forward to fall Area Meetings and the area elections of MACD Board Members. The table below outlines open seats in each MACD area. We have five Board members intending to run for re-election (these seats can be challenged), as well open seats in Area 3, Area 4, and Area 5.

Our MACD Board is a strong, active, and engaged board. We are proud of the progress we have made in recent years, including our monumental success in creating a permanent conservation district trust which provides stable and increased CD funding for years to come, as well as programs and resources to support conservation districts. As we look forward to achieving our next goals and addressing emerging challenges on behalf of Montana's CDs, we look forward to welcoming both new and returning board members to our team and hope that you may be interested in joining us in this important work. *Please see the second page for upcoming info sessions for prospective board members*.

Board Seats up for Election in Fall 2025:

Area	Board Seat Term	Current Board Member	Intending to run?
1	2025-2028	Jeff Pattison (Valley)	Yes
2	2025-2028	Doug Bonsell (Carter)	Yes
3	2025-2028	Roger Smedsrud (Toole)	Yes
3	Partial term 2025-2026	Pat Anderson (Phillips)	No
4	2025-2028	Open Seat	Vacant
5	2025-2028	Bill Naegeli (Green Mountain)	Yes
5	Partial term 2025-2026	Open Seat	Vacant
6	2025-2028	Rick VanDyken (Broadwater)	Yes

Election Details:

- Qualifications: All voting supervisors from districts in-good-standing may run for any open seats in their area.
- *Voting:* MACD board elections take place at the Area Meetings in the fall. Each conservation district in an area will have one vote, whether they are in good standing with MACD or not.
- *Term:* New terms will officially start during the 2024 MACD Annual Convention in Great Falls from Nov. 19-21. All MACD Board members are requested to attend the Annual Convention if possible.

Information on Serving as a MACD Board Member

Info Packet

Included in this packet (linked below) are the following items which will give a broader understanding of how you will engage as a MACD board member:

- 1. Expectations of engagement for MACD Board Members.
- 2. <u>Board Governance Calendar</u> which outlines key board and committee tasks required to meet our legal and fiduciary responsibilities.
- 3. MACD Strategic Plan
- 4. <u>2024 Annual Meeting Calendar</u> (We will have a calendar for 2025 soon!)

Onboarding following Elections

Following the elections, MACD will provide an onboarding session and materials, as well as the MACD Board Manual to newly elected board members. Rebecca Boslough-King will be the primary point of contact for this process.

Info Sessions on MACD Board Positions (approx. 15-30 mins max)

For those who would like more information or have questions about serving on the MACD Board, we will be hosting several informational zoom meetings. Plan to attend the one that fits your schedule or if you are not able to attend, please let MACD President Dean Rogge (roggedean@gmail.com), MACD VP Steve Hertel (stevehertel30@gmail.com), Rebecca Boslough King (rebecca@macdnet.org 443-5711 ext2), or one of your Area Reps know and we can schedule a call.

- 1. August 26th at 1pm
- 2. September 4th at 1pm

Please use the same zoom info for both meetings

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85079912515?pwd=eZC64MbF1vgEuqywulLeUIo3EXr1jw.1

Meeting ID: 850 7991 2515

• **Passcode:** 824378

Phone: +17193594580 or +12532050468

2025 Area 6 Meeting – El Western Conference Center 4787 US-287, Ennis, Montana 59729 October 1, 2025 Hosted by Madison Conservation District

<u>Agenda</u>

8:30 am	Registration with coffee/juice and light refreshments				
9:00 am	Call to Order by Kate Roberts, Madison Conservation District Chair Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements				
9:30 am	Local Government Training led by Dan Clark, MSU Local Government Center				
11:30 am	Lunch				
12:30 pm	Business Meeting				
	 Approval Previous Year Meeting Minutes Approval Current Year Treasurer's Report Consideration of Current Year's Resolutions Election of Area Representative to the MACD Board Next Year's Area Meeting location Presentation of Area Longevity Awards (Given by MACD President) 				
1:30 pm	Break				
1:40 pm	District Reports We encourage active district participation and look forward to hearing highlights including emerging threats, success stories, and other notable updates.				
2:10 pm	 Agency & Partner Reports Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) Department of Natural Resources and Conservation/ Conservation Districts Bureau (DNRC/CDB) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Montana Conservation District Employee Organization (MCDEO) Montana Salinity Control Association (MSCA) Montana Department of Agriculture Intermountain West Joint Venture MSU Extension Other partners present 				

3:40 pm Adjourn - Have A Safe Trip Home



Lewis and Clark Conservation District <admin@lewisandclarkcd.org>

RE: Checking in

1 message

Greg McNally <gmcnally@lccountymt.gov>

Tue, Aug 5, 2025 at 8:58 AM

To: Lewis and Clark Conservation District <admin@lewisandclarkcd.org>

Cc: Brandi Spangler
 Spangler@lccountymt.gov>, Dannai Clayborn

 CDMCLAYBORN@helenamt.gov>

Hi Chris,

Your Board meeting is good timing. The Board of Supervisors of the Conservation District may select one of its members for approval pursuant to 76-1-201, MCA. We currently have a jointly appointed member whose term ends on 9-1-25. Your selected member could fill that position. The Planning Board is not meeting in August, and a September meeting has not been scheduled yet. You can inform your Board members that the Planning Board generally meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the City-County Building as needed. I am attaching a document with related language compiled from the statutes, our by-laws, and our interlocal agreement establishing the consolidated city/county Planning Board. I am also attaching the by-laws of the Planning Board. Call me if you have any questions – 406-447-8394.

Greg

From: Lewis and Clark Conservation District <admin@lewisandclarkcd.org>

Sent: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 7:56 AM

To: Greg McNally < gmcnally@lccountymt.gov>

Subject: Checking in

You don't often get email from admin@lewisandclarkcd.org. Learn why this is important

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Greg,

I'm just checking in about our previous conversation about the Conservation District getting back on the Planning Board. I have a board meeting on the 14th and would like to provide the board with an update.

Thanks!



Chris Evans (she/her)

District Administrator

Lewis & Clark Conservation District

Phone: 406-502-8591

Email: admin@lewisandclarkcd.org

790 Colleen Street

Helena MT 59601

2 attachments



9th Member RULES.docx



CURRENT By-Laws 2009.pdf 11340K

Administrator's Report 2025 0814 Board Meeting

CD Related

- > Filed the June approved minutes with DNRC and the County & posted them to the district website
- > Payroll taxes paid for July, as well as the 2 MPERA payments
- > Again, no one attended the Permissive Mill Levy hearing for July 24th.
- > Grants: of the 6 reports, we've only received payment for 1 of them. With the state's fiscal year end, things apparently really slow down.
- ➤ I have a first run Draft Policies and Procedures manual based on the "model" from DNRC. Rather than incorporating our lengthy document into it, I have moved our policies to that document as links or copying and pasting and keeping it as a standalone document. The other document that I've been working on will contain District History, Supervisor Information and Operational Procedures.
- > I have been working on revisions to the Supervisor Notebook, and the Personnel Policy.
- > I would like to set up a few supervisors to assist with the draft policies that we need to finalize for incorporation into the new Policy Manual.
- ➤ As noted following our July meeting, the Workmosis cost that McCone CD is paying is \$1200 per month, not \$12,000. I will be meeting with them later in August to discuss what things would look like for our district. I really believe that in order to hire someone when I retire, the district needs to consider outsourcing at least some of our financials. QuickBooks desktop is not only on its way out, but is done. I don't know what level of financials WorkMosis would be able to do for us (as far as minimal), but we need to outsource at least payroll, payroll taxes, quarterly reporting, W-2s and 1099s.
- ➤ While Joe was on sick leave, the whole Ten Mile Creek situation blew up. I've made contact with: City of Helena Public Works director; Lake Helena Watershed Group; Russ Gates at the DNRC water rights; Vonne Schatz (about the old Schatz right); RV Ranch; multiple landowners in the area. It's been a long 2 weeks with that situation.

Ongoing activity when I have "down time":

- Updating and linking Policies/Procedures that have already been created to the Governance Calendar and updating the hard copy versions
- ❖ Linking policies and procedures into the Table of Contents for the Operations Manual and the new Policy Manual. This will allow following employees to click those links and they can go directly to the most up to date version of each.
- ❖ We still have a number of policies/procedures that we need to finalize. As I get them drafted, I'll present them to the board.
- Scanning 310 folders-still working on 2016
- CD Inventory update
- Working on updating all district related accounts to the "admin@lewisandclarkcd.org" to allow for an easier transition as we replace my position.

Things on my "keep track of" list:

- → Planning Board update
- → Realtor Workshop

Employee Organization

- → We skipped the July Roundtable this year, everyone is really busy.
- → I've been working on a Succession Planning training for Statewide Employee training for later in August.

WEBSITE-*Comparisons are with the same period last year*

Acquisition-

Between the legislative session and the craziness of the pollinator program, the work that I would normally have done posting on Social Media that directs people back to the website was severely reduced. You can see the drop in active users through social media (down 31.5 % from the same period the previous year). Direct users, those whose traffic Google can't classify as a specific source, were actually up by 52.8%

Total users were up by 12.65%, with a 11.73% new user increase. Returning users were down 5.03%. Average user engagement time per active user was down by 33.59%.

Traffic acquisition number of sessions was actually up by 10.38%, but the rest of the stats in the traffic acquisition section were down

Engagement-

Overall engagement was down from the same period the previous year, considerably. I just need to spend more time on the site and on social media redirects to the site. I just don't have enough time.

Events in general overall were down by 2.66% but the total users, as noted above, were up by 12.65%.

Pages and Screens-Unsurprisingly, the highest number of hits amongst the different pages on our site was the home page (463 views), and the second was the Pollinator Initiative page (329 views). Third was the newsletter (154 views), which is gratifying, and 4th was the stream-permitting page (108 views).

Landing page-This report shows the first page users land on when they come to our site, so links from social media and other websites. First is our home page, second is the pollinator page, third is the newsletter.

SOCIAL MEDIA STATS

This section is broken into Facebook and Instagram. Views are number of times the profile has been viewed; reach is the number of people who saw actual page content.

Views & Reach:

- Facebook views were up by 12.4%, reach was down 39.2%
- Instagram views were up by 142.4%, reach was up by 30.1%

Content Interaction

- Facebook was down by 2.1%
- Instagram was up by 186.7%

Link clicks

- Facebook was down by 36.2%
- Instagram doesn't do links

Visits

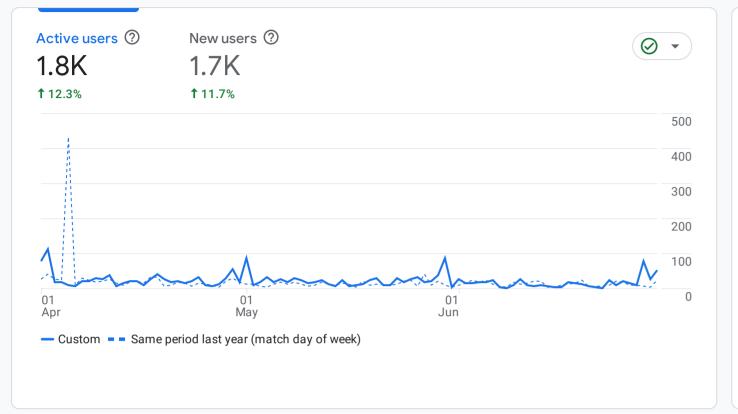
- Facebook was up by 74.1%
- Instagram was up by 25%

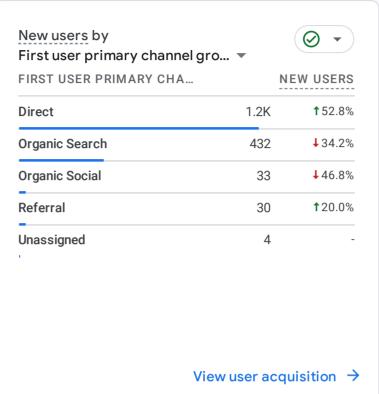
Follows

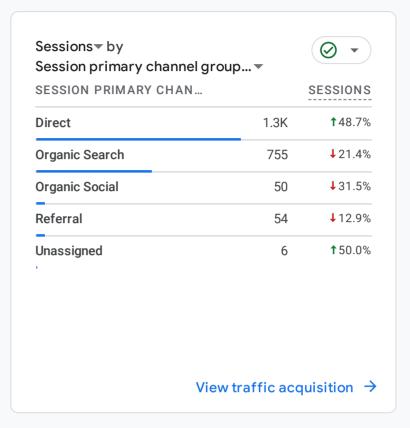
- Facebook was up by 47.1%
- Instagram was up by 55.6%

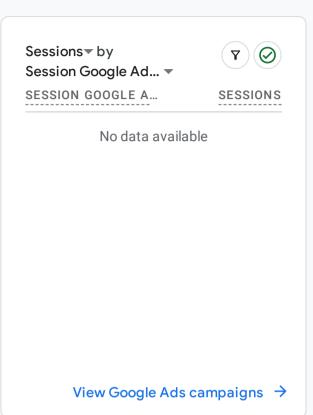
Custom Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2025 Compare: Apr 2 - Jul 1, 2024

Acquisition overview

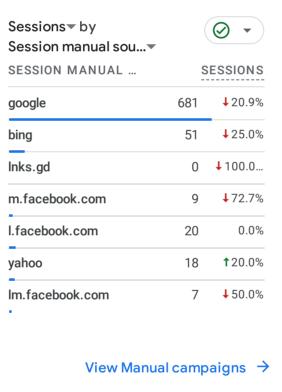








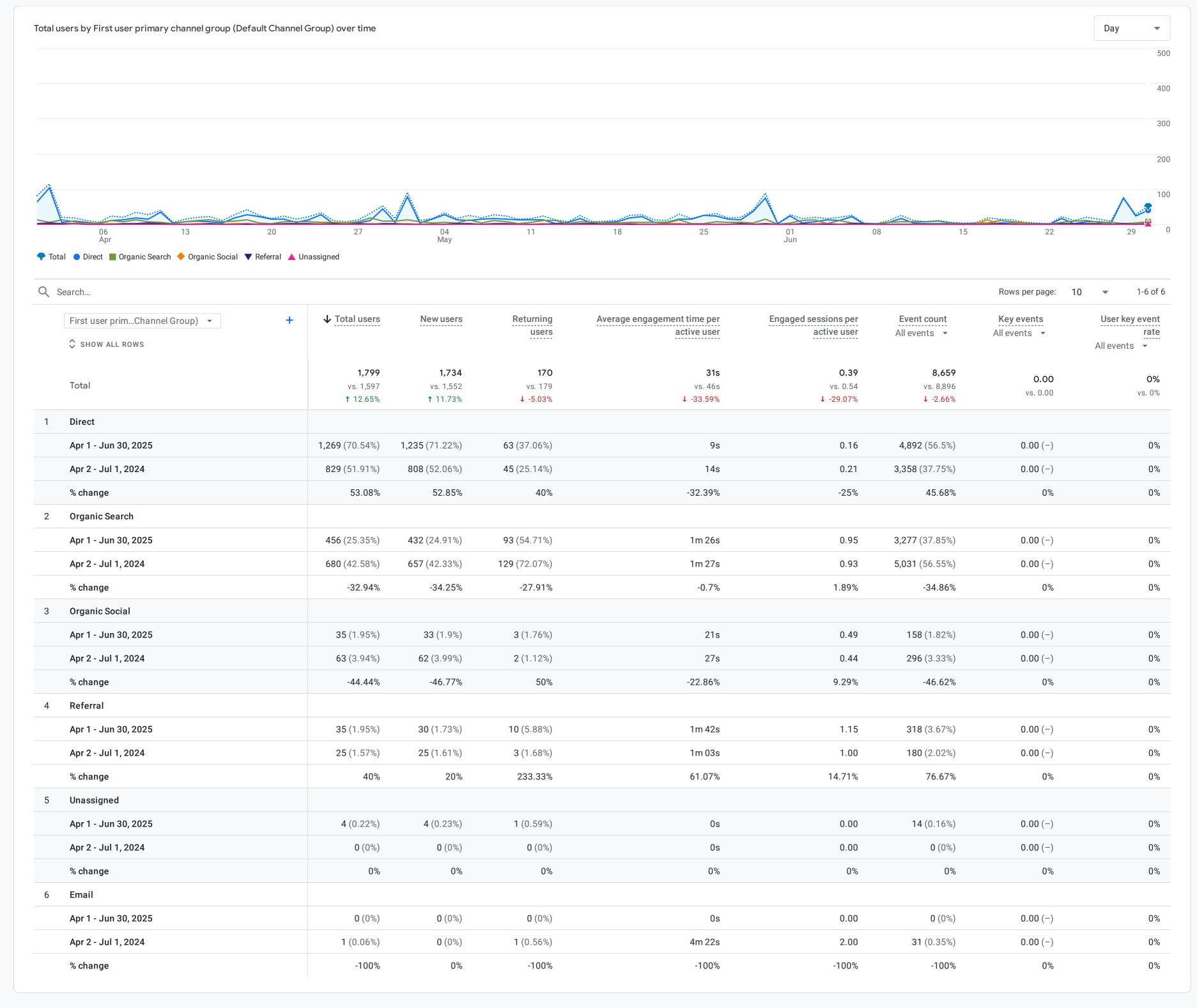




Custom Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2025 Compare: Apr 2 - Jul 1, 2024

User acquisition: First user primary channel group (Default Channel Group) 🕢 🔻

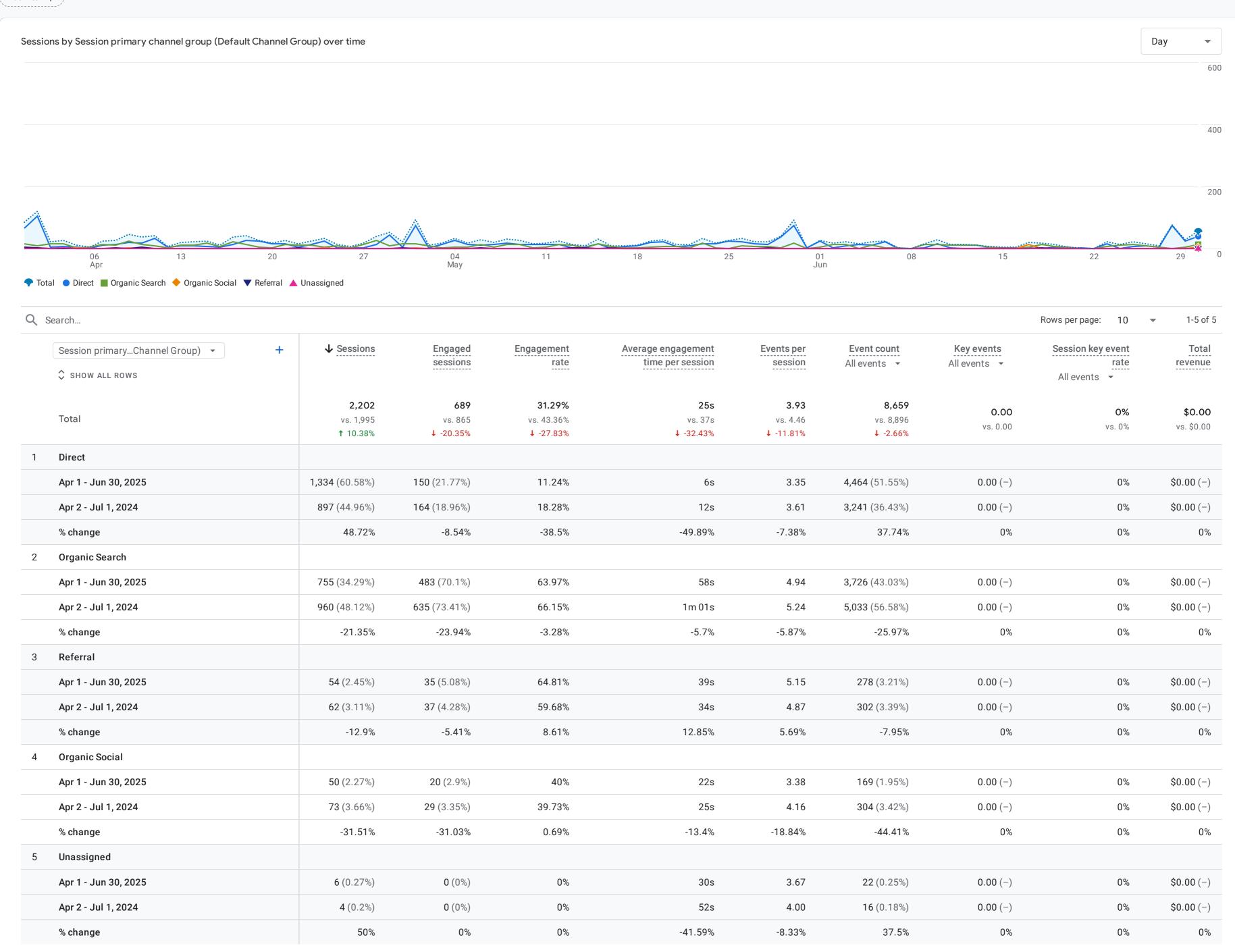
Add filter +



Custom Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2025 Compare: Apr 2 - Jul 1, 2024

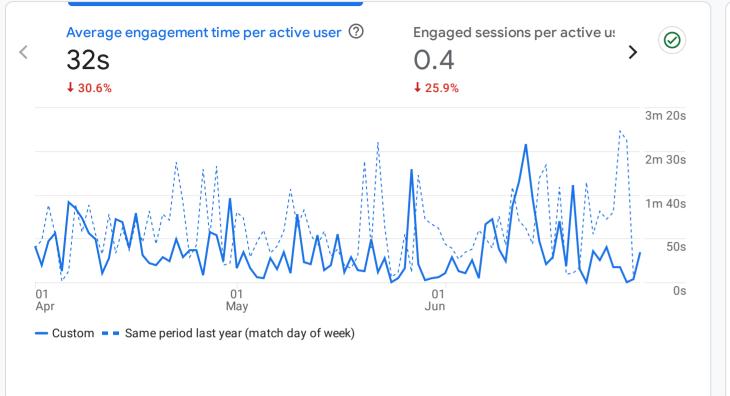
Traffic acquisition: Session primary channel group (Default Channel Group) 🕢 🔻

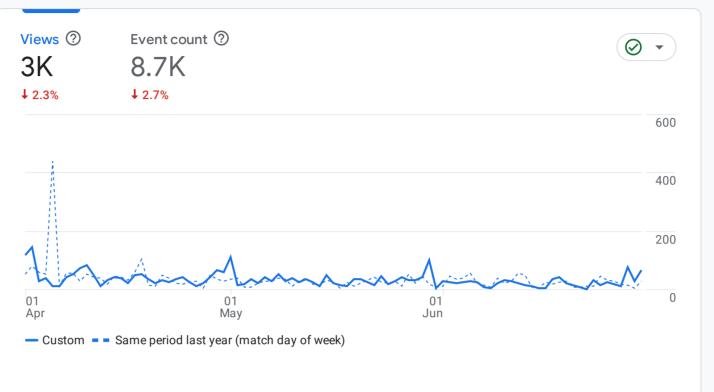
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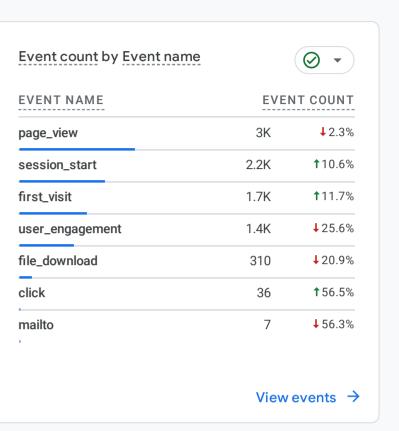


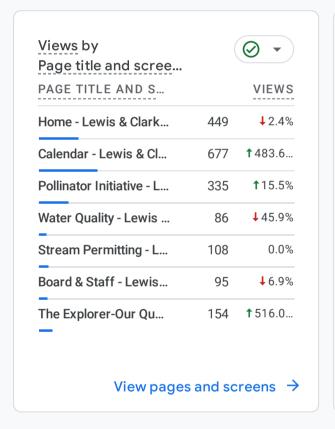
Custom Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2025 Compare: Apr 2 - Jul 1, 2024

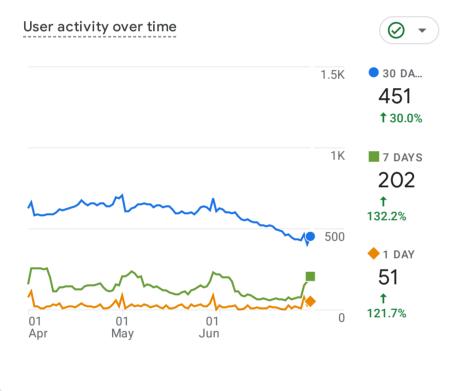
Engagement overview

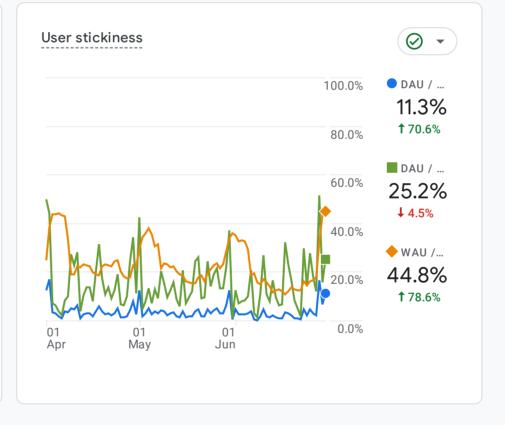










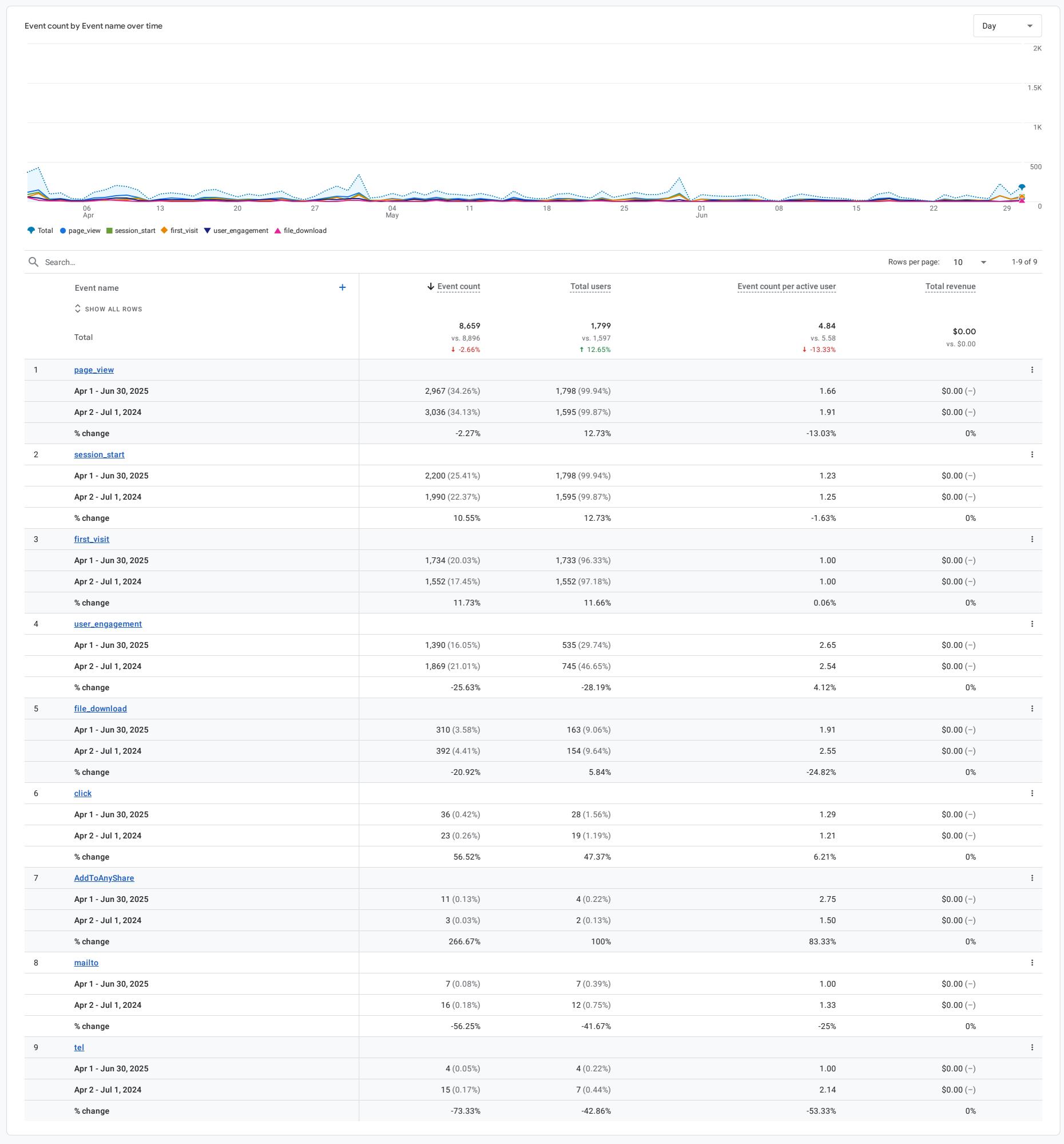


(A) All Users

Add comparison +

Custom Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2025 Compare: Apr 2 - Jul 1, 2024



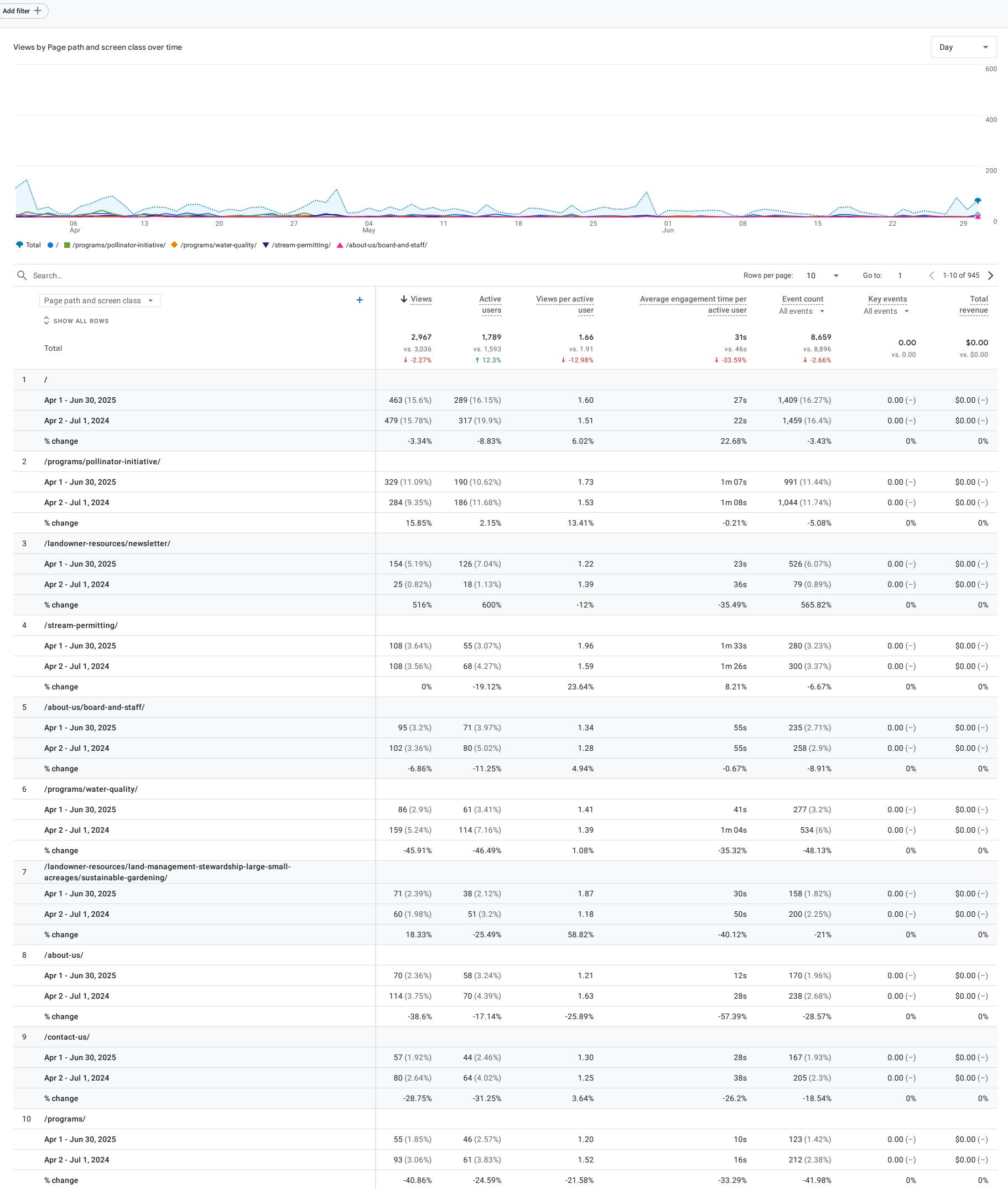


All Users

Add comparison +

Custom Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2025 Compare: Apr 2 - Jul 1, 2024

Pages and screens: Page path and screen class 🕢 🔻

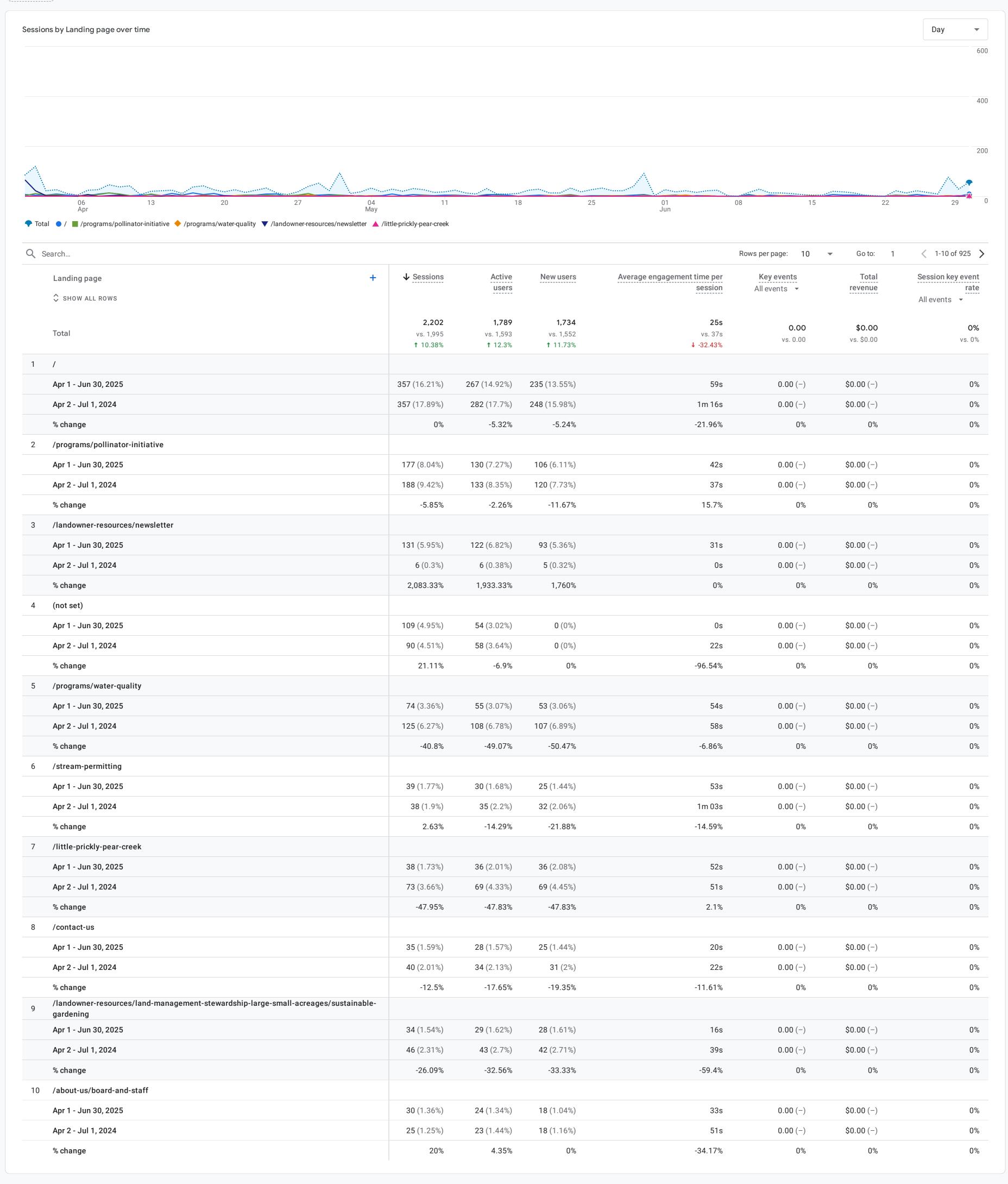


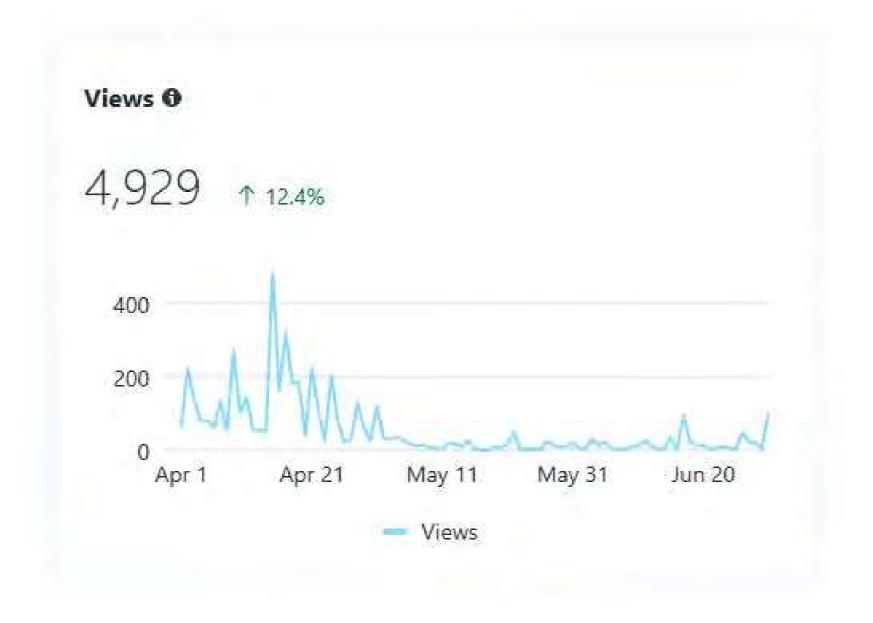
A All Users (Add comparison +)

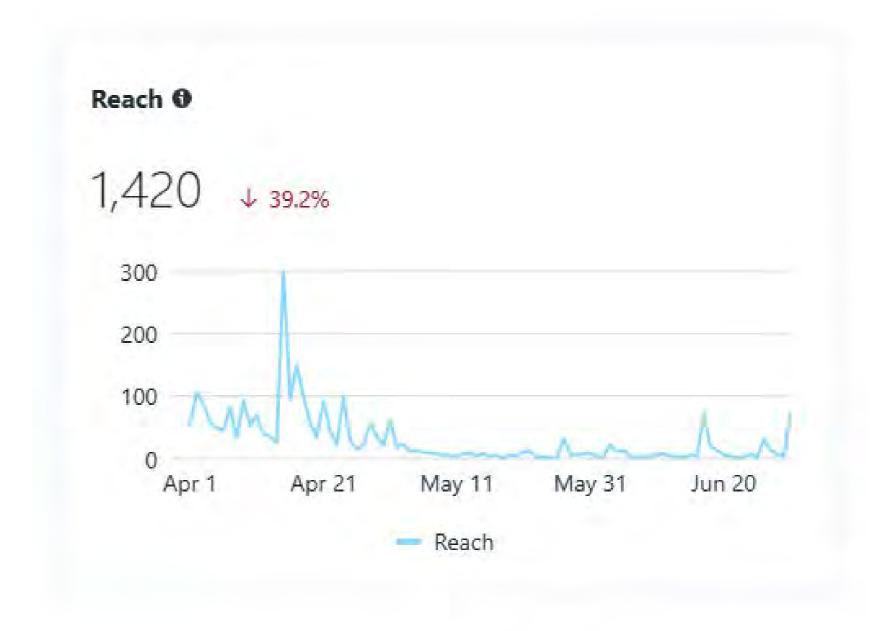
Custom Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2025 Compare: Apr 2 - Jul 1, 2024

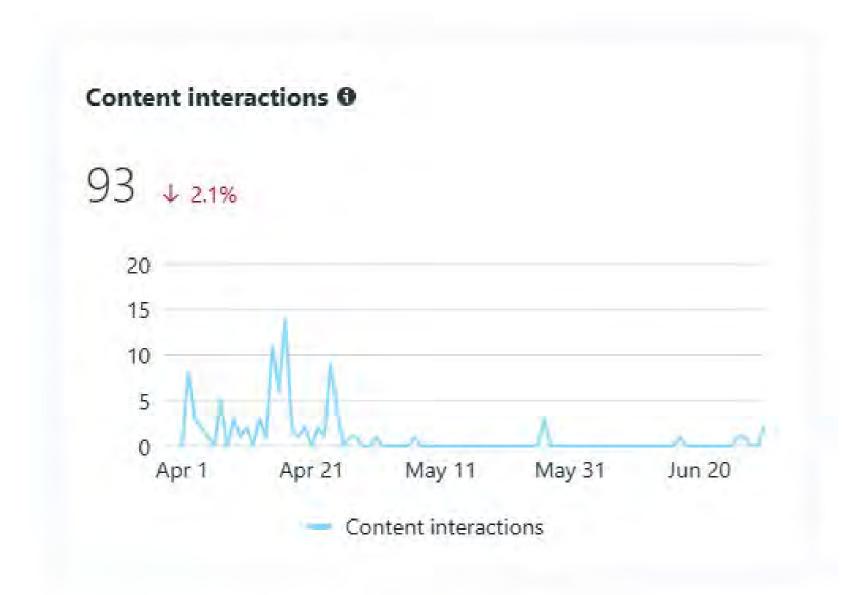
Landing page: Landing page 🕢 🔻

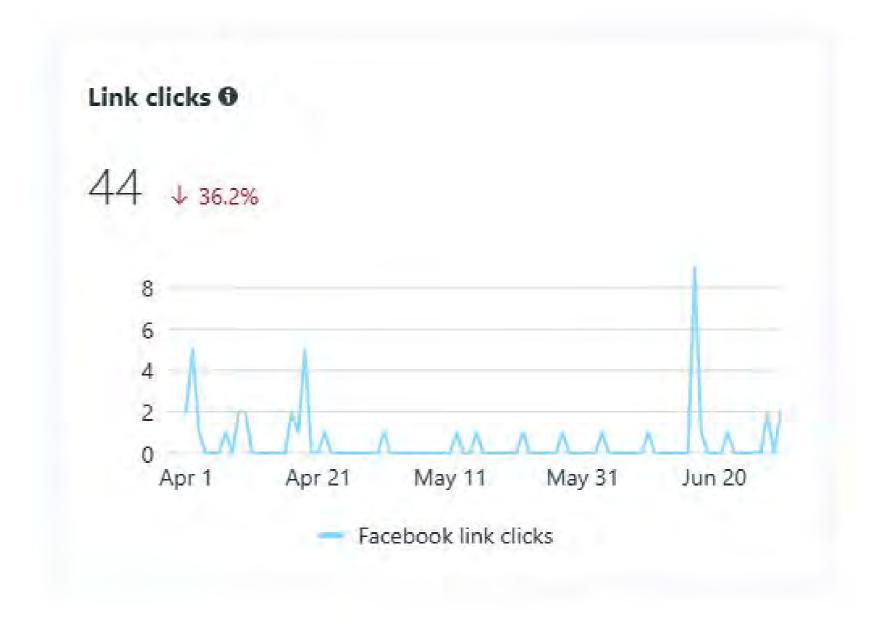
Add filter +

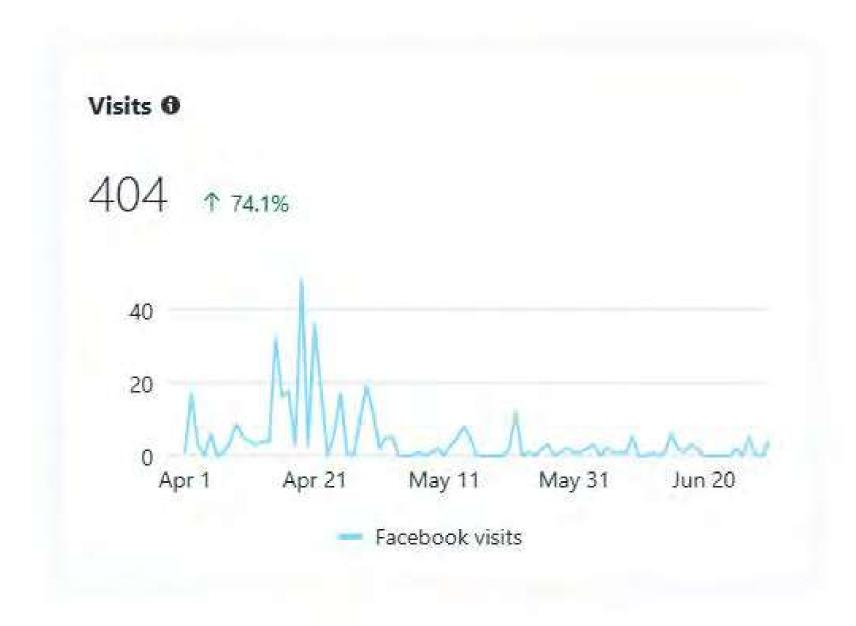


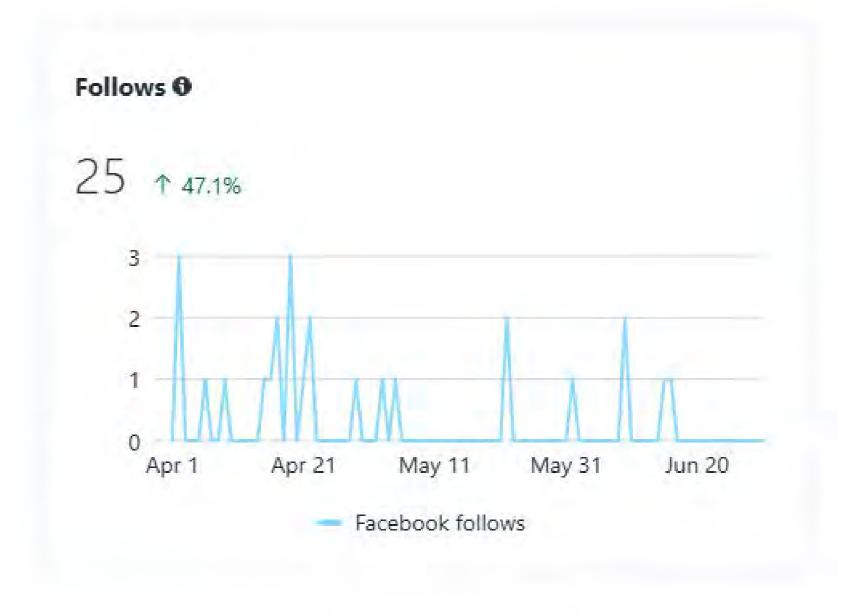


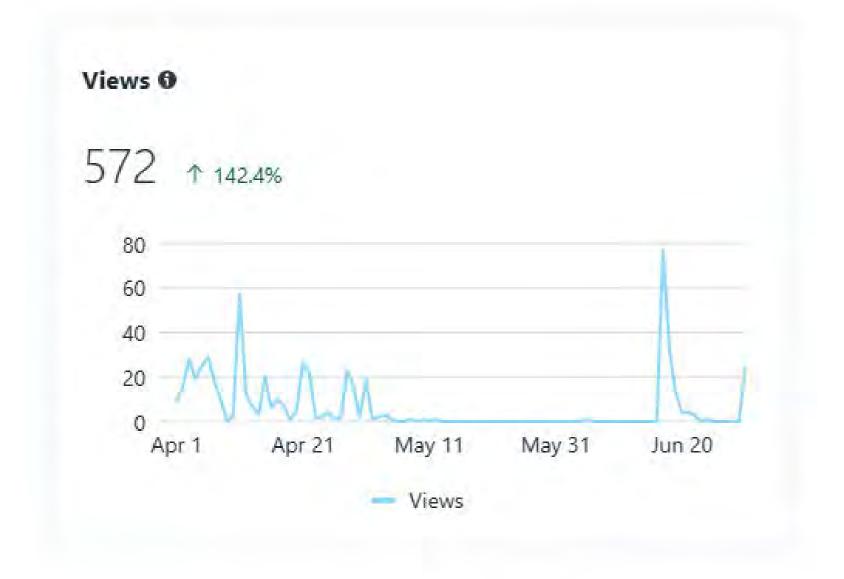


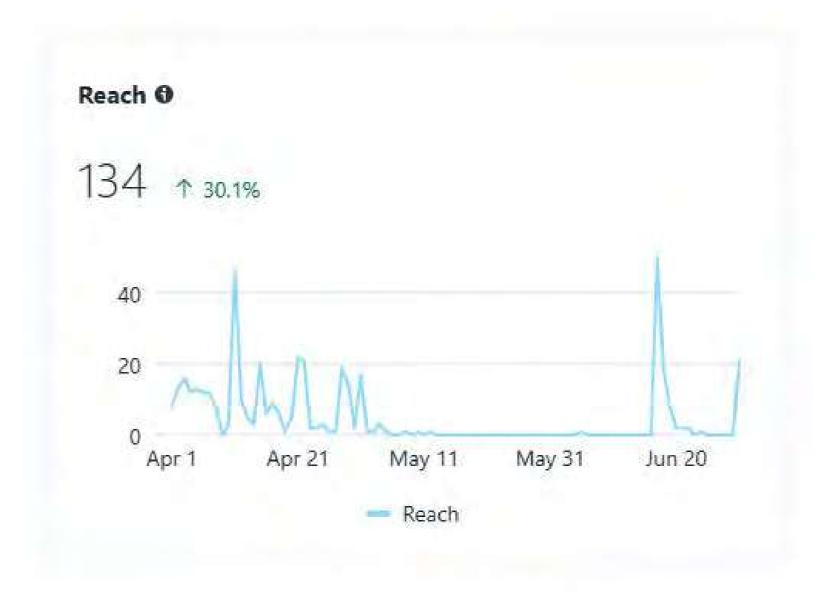


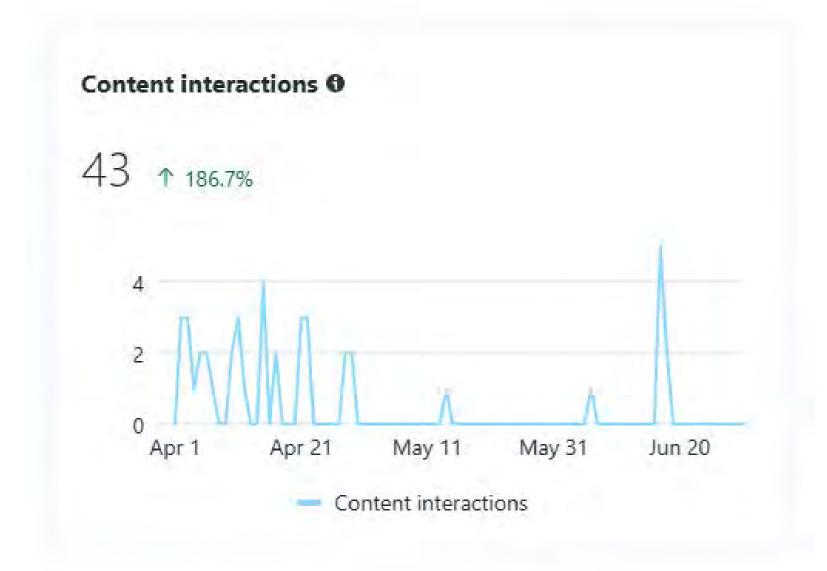




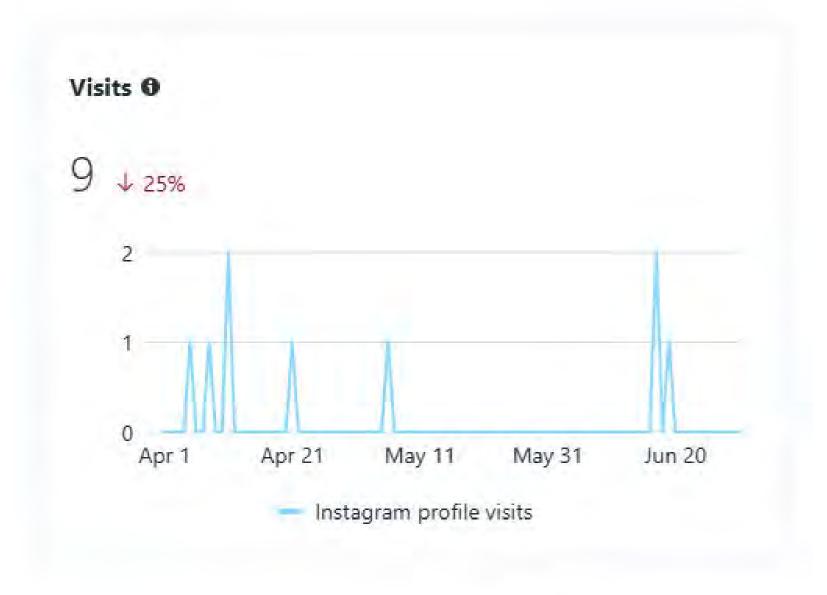


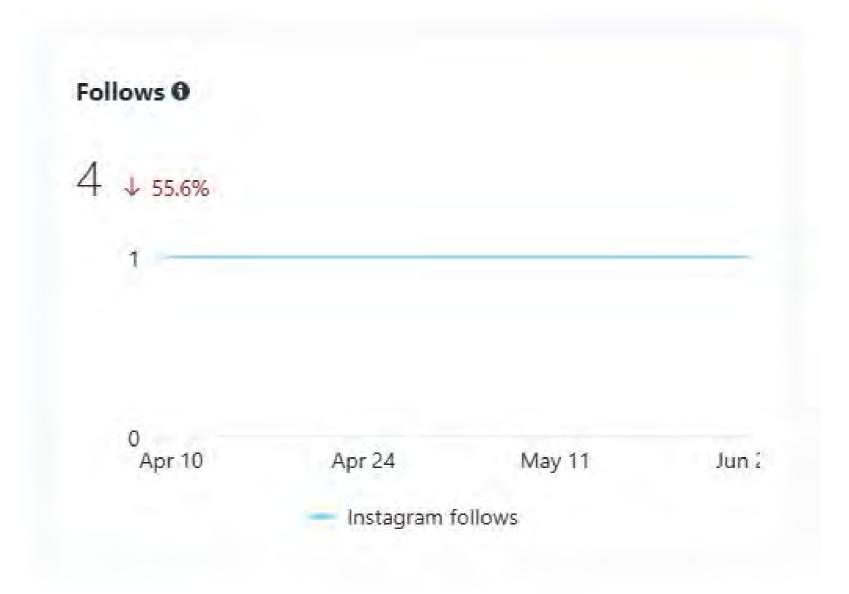












		2nd Quarter 2025	STATUS
Education & Outreach	Envirothon	Event at the end of April; Joe could help if he has time	We had no teams this year
	Summer Ed Walk Series	First Summer Walk	Complete
Ō	Ag Ed Day	Event with 4th Graders-Rolling Rivers Trailer	Complete
∞	Rolling Rivers Trailer	Events as requested and available; Video recording/editing/upload as able	in progress
atio	Seminar/Worksh ops	Host Pollinator Workshop Rain Barrel Workshop	Pollinator Complete/Opted against Rain Barrel WS this year
duc	Social Media Posting	Content development and revision; posting	Did good at first, fallen off later in the quarter
ш	Website Development/U pdates	Website Content development as able	In Progress
	Stream Project Packet Updates		Need updated photos
	Newsletter	July Quarterly Newsletter prep, seek articles	Complete
	Underserved Areas of County	Outreach to underserved areas	in progress
	Montana Conservation Elders Event	April 19, 2025 Montana Elders Event- Fairgrounds	Complete
	Stewardship Week (Apr 27- May 4)	Social media for Stewardship week	Missed it.
	Workshop on Algae that replaces fertilizer		No progress
	LOTB Website- Realtor Outreach		Will work with SRWG on theirs to plan agenda for 2026
Projects	Website-Project Page	Updated Monitoring Photos	Need monitoring photos
	Bashin' Trash	Social Media posts, emails to volunteer list; find team captains, decide on sites, event in August?	Ongoing
	Project Evaluation System		No progress
	Partner/Landow ner Project Collaboration	Collaboration with partners on projects	in progress

	Wake Boat Signage Project	Wrap up grant	post in the ground, fast signs is fixing sign
	Threemile Project	Grant report; project & planning work	Ongoing
	Willow Creek Feeder Canal	Trial with GID/FSID	Trial has been postponed to fall
	Bank/Shoreline Restoration Trials		NA
	Bill Gehring Project		In progress
Programs	Pollinator Initiative	Seed distribution days-Helena, Augusta, Wolf Creek in April/May	Complete/140 applicants, all seed distributed, email requesting monitoring photos out
	Solar Pump Trailer	Use trailer; work with landowners who want to lease it	Need to add to website
	Well Test Cost Share	Reimbursements for water tests; Share results with WQPD	Ongoing
	Rolling Rivers Trailer-Other Entities	Provide trailer at various events	3086 so far
	Sponsors/Fundr aisers		Complete
Stream Permitting & Riparian Health	Stream Permitting Law	Database Entry; work with applicants; project verifications	in progress
	Compliance Monitoring	Project Verification Form tracking from applicants	in progress
	Floodplain Permitting Issues	Continue collaboration with Joint Stream Restoration Committee	Ongoing
	Living on the Bank	Work with Fergus and MRCDC on analytics and page content	Pretty much complete
	Stream Project Coordination	Assess and Prioritze project requests from landowners	in progress
Capacity	Annual Operations & Strategic Plans	Review previous Quarter	Complete
	Board Communication & Training	Ten Minute Trainings from CDB; Assess needed supervisor training; track new available training;	NA
	Supervisor & Staff Succession Planning	User of Governance Calendar; development & maintenance of Policy & Procedure Manuals	Ongoing

2025 2nd Quarter Report

Policy Developme	nt Identify need for and creation of policies	Ongoing
Staff Professiona Developme	seek training opportunities within the CD	Ongoing
Grant Writi	ng Grant applications, April 15th	NA
Grant Manageme	nt Grant reporting 1st quarter;	Ongoing
Montana C Employee C		Ongoing

RV Ranch Irrigation Activity Concerns

Benjamin and Jessica Butler

1351 Rimini Rd and 1397 Landmark Dr (Our properties are connected and the irrigation ditch runs through both)

- Exposure of arsenic and other heavy metals by attempting to dig deeper in the irrigation ditches through the previous remediation efforts
- 2) Damming of 10 mile creek
 - a. Death of hundreds of trout
 - b. Ability of our wells for our barn and house to replenish is greatly reduced
 - Potential flooding of our property and home if a massive down pour occurred and it forced accumulated debris down stream
 - d. Same as c but potential damage to our bridge and other bridges
- 3) Intention to clear cut all trees 15 feet on each side of the irrigation ditch.
- 4) My understanding is the water rights laws in Montana do not allow the irrigation ditch owner to expand or modify the irrigation ditch without the express permission of the land owner which no one has given the RV ranch.
- 5) Every couple of years the RV Ranch and City of Helena continue to take away or reduce our irrigation rights and during the last round in 23/24 we could not hire a water rights attorney because they were all on retainer with the City or RV Ranch so you can't even get due process. The worst part is we try to be good stewards of the water and only use it when absolutely necessary and then they take it away for non-usage.

Ten Mile Creek- RV Ranch 310 permit

I write this letter as a concerned landowner directly downstream of the historic RV Ranch Ten Mile diversion. I have lived on the creek since 1986. My property was devastated in the 1981 Ten Mile creek flood. City of Helena water main infrastructure, county bridges, Landmark subdivision access bridge and major scouring on my property occurred due to the power of the runoff in that flood event. Trees and debris caught up in that flood created the forces to scour my property and change stream flows in the stream bed.

The actions taken by the RV Ranch to completely dam the creek to create a new diversion is reckless. It creates the opportunity for debris to collect in low flow as well as flash flood circumstances like the flood of 1981. To me this careless action exhibits a total lack of others well being downstream. The recent 500 acre Jericho Mountain fire in the Ten Mile drainage will certainly have an impact on debris flows in flash flood or spring runoff events.

Historic RV ranching practices recognized the stream flows of Ten Mile creek. Planting crops in May and moving cattle off hay ground early in the season allowed for proper growth on the rocky mountain soils with moderate temperatures. This allowed for a targeted cutting of hay by the 4th of July.

This year however a mid summer planting of hay combined with the mid summer grazing on hay ground created the need for damming the creek to catch water no longer available in July stream flows. This emergency was man made and not by mother nature.

Historic water diversion quantities, irrigation ditch characteristics and maintenance practices will be settled by other agencies.

The inefficient water delivery techniques of flood irrigation of the past got the job done with the historic diversion. Common sense would tell you that pivot sprinkler irrigation should be manageable with that same historic diversion structure.

An agreement between the City of Helena, RV Ranch and Fish & Game in the early 2000 era allowed for safe passage downstream of 1 cfs for fish passage and stream regeneration. The 1 cfs was provided by the city out of their water rights and was passed through by the RV ranch manager. The complete damming of the stream has diverted that flow directly to RV Ranch pivots rather than it's intended use for stream regeneration. Now the creek runs dry below the RV Ranch diversion.

I would request that the emergency dam be removed to allow for the safety of those downstream. The diversion to be put back as it was to collect their historic flows.

With proper management, the stream flow should be sufficient with efficient pivot irrigation delivery. Management of the ranch operation should follow the natural cycle of the flow of Ten Mile creek.

We want the RV Ranch to be successful, but not at the expense of all of it's neighbors in the valley.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bob Ganter

August 6, 2025

Lewis and Clark Conservation District
790 Colleen Street

Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Board Members;

I am writing to express my concerns regarding recent changes in the RV Ranch's irrigation practices resulting in apparent increases in water use and their plans to enlarge a ditch traversing my property to accommodate those changes. The ditch has been in place and working satisfactorily for many decades. As explained below, their ditch traverses my property and literally cuts it in half. Their increased flows will have severe and potentially catastrophic impacts on my property. Here are my immediate concerns.

<u>Flooding.</u> My home, barn garage, and part of my pastures all lie below the level of the ditch. In the past there has been some, but very little flooding from the ditch with very minimal damage. With the increased water flow and the increased height of the proposed new ditch banks the risk of damaging flooding due to bank failure is massively increased, especially to my residence.

Removal of trees. The trees in the vicinity of the ditch are very mature and provide shade and protection from the elements to my home and yard and add value to my property. They predate the house. There are other ways to achieve the desired end without the wanton destruction. If trees are taken down and or removed it will be both ugly and create a significant fire hazard.

<u>Separation of property</u>. The ditch divides my property about in half. The current ditch is too wide for me to jump across safely so there is a small bridge that can be removed for ditch maintenance. The changes being done in the ditch to accommodate additional stream flow would make it too wide for my horses to jump across, too wide for a removable bridge, too deep and fast moving to sagely wade across, and cut off my horses from access to their pasture. Simply stated, I would effectively lose the use of about half of my property.

<u>Contamination spread.</u> When the EPA remediated mine waste contamination on my property, they removed the banks on either side of the ditch to a depth well below the bed of the ditch but not the bed itself. That contaminated soil was hauled away to a repository and the ditch banks and the rest of the remediated area were restored with clean uncontaminated earth. But they did not touch the ditch bed. If that ditch bed is excavated and that soil allowed to be spread on the surface it risks recontamination of

the reclaimed areas. This would devalue my property and likely be a concern to the EPA.

<u>Unvegetated ditch embankments</u>. I am told by the RV Ranch foreman that there is no plan to revegetate the new stream beds. Unvegetated soil on stream and ditch banks is going to erode, greatly increasing the likelihood of a catastrophic ditch failure with flooding. Further, unvegetated soil becomes a weed patch that spreads to adjacent ground. I have spent thousands of dollars and untold hours on weed control. Frankly the areas along the ditch are in pretty good shape now. That will all be lost and the weeds will spread.

<u>Hillside destabilization.</u> The ditch is cut into the hillside near the west edge for my property and on the adjacent Herrin property. The hillside is steep to the point that I have to use a rope to pull myself up on when maintaining fence and pulling weeds. The soil both above and below the ditch is relatively unstable and loose. It is being held in place by the tree roots for the most part. Any tree removal and digging further into the uphill side to widen or deepen the ditch will likely result in a significant erosion and sliding of the much of hillside extending beyond the fifteen-foot easement line into the ditch. That will in turn block the ditch causing flooding on my property and other properties to the west.

Attached are pictures of the ditch through my property.

Sorry this is so long, but these are my concerns relative to the impacts on my property. I understand easements. These impacts go well beyond the bounds of the ditch easement.

Pat Keim 1350 Deer Meadow Drive Helena, Montana 59601 406-439-0305 Pkeim1350@gamil.com

