



Jocko Valley Pipeline Conversion

PRE-CONSTRUCTION



WHAT IS THIS PROJECT?

The Jocko Canal to Pipeline Conversion Project is modernizing the irrigation system in the Jocko Valley by upgrading aging infrastructure, improving water delivery, and increasing irrigation efficiency throughout the service area.

The project includes replacing sections of open canals, or irrigation ditches, with buried pipelines, improving water measurement and flow-control infrastructure, and upgrading systems used to deliver irrigation water to farms and ranches.

The work is being completed in phases as part of broader efforts under the CSKT–Montana Water Compact to improve water management, support irrigators, and help maintain flows in the Jocko River system.

PROJECT FEATURES

- Buried pipeline system
- Reduced water loss and seepage
- Improved irrigation reliability
- Modernized irrigation infrastructure
- Supports Jocko River flows

WHY IT MATTERS

The project is intended to improve the long-term reliability and efficiency of irrigation delivery in the Jocko Valley while helping reduce unnecessary water loss from the system. The project is also expected to reduce costs for irrigators, with estimated cost saving of about \$2,000 annually per 40 acres.

By improving how water is managed, the project also helps support flows in the Jocko River, benefiting overall river health and fisheries habitat, including threatened bull trout.

The work reflects broader efforts under the CSKT–Montana Water Compact to support responsible water management and protect natural resources on the Flathead Reservation.

PROJECT PROGRESS

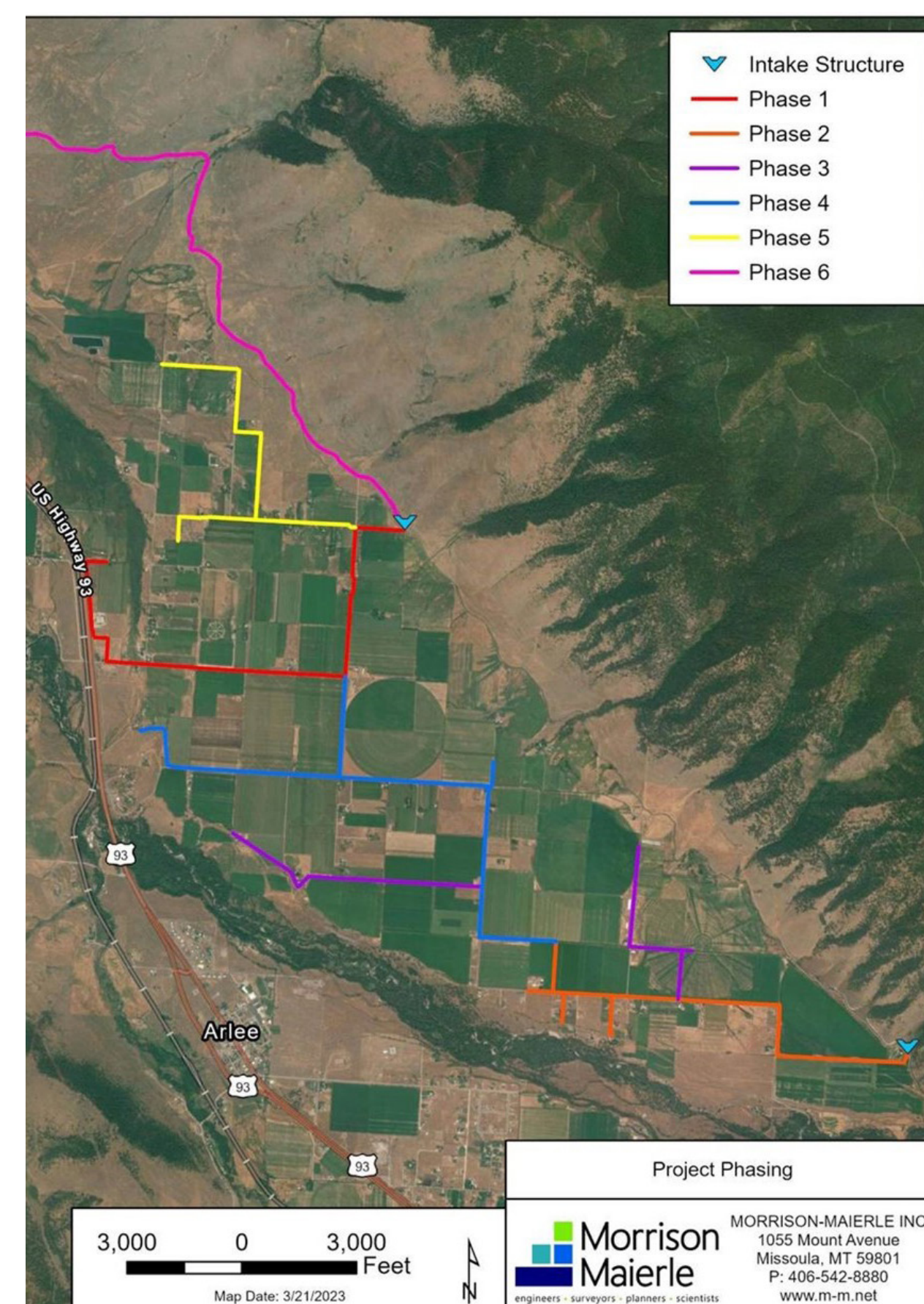
- Phases 1–4 of the project have been completed
- Approximately 18 miles of open canal infrastructure have been upgraded
- Water is being delivered through of the upgraded pipeline system
- Final phases of the project will continue expanding system improvements throughout the service area
- Construction and modernization efforts are being completed in phases

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING CONSTRUCTION

- Excavation and buried pipeline installation
- Heavy equipment and construction traffic in work areas
- Temporary road or access impacts near active construction zones
- Upgrades to irrigation infrastructure and delivery systems
- Phased construction to help maintain irrigation service during improvements

TIMELINE

- Construction initiated in 2025
- Project phases 1-4 completed in spring of 2026
- Completion of phases 5 & 6 anticipated by April 2027.



Map showing the six phases of the Jocko Canal to Pipeline Conversion Project within the Jocko Valley service area.



Large-diameter buried pipeline installed as part of approximately 18 miles of irrigation system upgrades in the Jocko Valley.



Modernized water delivery infrastructure within the Jocko Valley irrigation system.