

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA  
No. DA 25-0072

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TROUT UNLIMITED,  
*Appellant and Objector,*

v.

JAMES R. MELIN,  
*Appellee and Claimant.*

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**APPELLANT'S MOTION FOR CONSOLIDATION**

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On Appeal from the Montana Water Court,  
Case No. 43B-0148-R-2020  
Hon. Stephen R. Brown, Associate Water Judge Presiding

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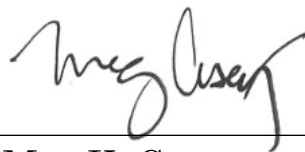
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Pursuant to Rule 4(3)(b), M.R.App.P., Appellant Trout Unlimited, by and through its undersigned counsel of record, respectfully moves this Court to consolidate the above-entitled matter with another appeal, *Petrich Family Limited Partnership v. Trout Unlimited*, Case No. DA 24-0656, as they raise the same legal questions of first impression. As set forth in its supporting brief, Appellant Trout Unlimited seeks consolidation for the sake of judicial economy and the efficiency of the parties' litigation efforts.

Pursuant to Rule 16, M.R.App.P., the undersigned counsel for Trout Unlimited gave notice to the parties prior to filing this motion. Counsel for Cross-Appellant and Appellee opposes the motion, although provided no basis for his opposition.

Respectfully submitted this 31<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2025.



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Meg K. Casey  
*Counsel for Appellant Trout Unlimited*

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Megan Casey, hereby certify that I have served true and accurate copies of the foregoing Motion - Consolidate to the following on 02-02-2025:

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Electronically Signed By: Megan Casey  
Dated: 02-02-2025