Produced water spill reported in Billings County

BISMARCK, N.D. – White Rock Oil and Gas, LLC recently notified state and federal agencies of a produced water release from a buried pipeline they operate. The pipeline leak occurred on U.S. Forest Service property in Billings County about 7 miles northwest of Fairfield.

Initial estimates from the operator indicate approximately 25 barrels (1,050 gallons) of produced water discharged, impacting Blacktail Creek. Produced water is a by-product of oil and gas development.

The cause of the spill is under investigation. Personnel from the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality and various other agencies are inspecting the site and will continue to monitor the investigation and remediation.

Federal and state laws require that operators report the spillage of any materials that may pollute water, air or soil. Visit spill.nd.gov for more information about North Dakota’s Unified Spill Reporting System notifications and the public access tool.

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