



Montana Department of Environmental Quality
PPA/WQP/WPS
Attention: Kristy Zhinin
1520 East Sixth Avenue
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

For Department Use Only:

Received By: _____

Date: _____

Application Number: _____

Budget Submitted: _____

Montana DEQ 319 Mini-Grant Application

Please limit your application to 5 pages total.

*Notice : Applicants **must** submit both a hardcopy and electronic application to DEQ NPS Outreach and Education Coordinator, Kristy Zhinin. kzhinin@mt.gov 406-444-7425. Please refer to mini-grant call for applications for more information. Make sure to **address all 13 items** in this application, in this format, to be eligible for the grant. If the item does not apply (example # 12- no site event) write N/A.*

Contact Information:

Applicant name, organization & contact information (address, phone, email, fax)

Lori Curtis
Flathead Community of Resource Educators (CORE)
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Tax ID number for fiscal sponsor organization (Fiscal sponsors can be a school, community group, non-profit or other organization. Individuals cannot apply for this grant)

Northwest Regional Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D)
Tax ID # 36-3915471

Project Requirements:

1. Project title & location

Flathead Watershed Sourcebook – A Guide to an Extraordinary Place
Flathead Valley, Montana

2. What nonpoint source pollution or water quality issue does this project address?

This project will address all nonpoint source water quality issues generated by human activities such as agriculture, forestry, and urban and suburban development, and the contribution by these activities of nutrients, pathogens, pesticides, pharmaceutical waste, sediments, and other materials into our waterways. It will educate citizens and business owners of the Flathead Watershed about pollutants and sediments from various types of human influenced runoff.

3. What education and/or outreach activity is planned to address the above issue?

The entire project will result in a widely distributed publication and companion website focused on educating citizens directly and through local resource educators about issues of water quality and nonpoint source pollution. The CORE Watershed Education Committee will also develop *Finding the Flathead: Discovering the Watershed in Your Backyard*, somewhat modeled after the Discover a Watershed Series, using the *Flathead Watershed Sourcebook* as the source material.

4. How does the project fit into larger watershed efforts in the region?

The project will bring together the expertise of a number of organizations, agencies, and tribes to offer a single source reference for all of the watershed health efforts in the Flathead Watershed. This collaborative effort will provide information about the natural history, climate, biodiversity, cultural history, population and town profiles, water bodies, water usage, water quantity and quality, federal and state protections and monitoring, influences and threats, land ownership and management, agricultural production, economics, and watershed conservation and education resources of the area.

5. Who are the collaborating partners and how will they contribute to the project?

Collaborating partners for the project include the following organizations (**bold** denotes lead committee members who have defined in detail the required content of the project, provided extensive input, data, maps, and other materials, will review all chapter sections, and will be responsible as a group for the final book and website resulting from this project):

- British Columbia Ministry of the Environment
- British Columbia Conservation Data Centre
- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
- Center for Rocky Mountain West
- Citizens for a Better Flathead
- **Community of Resource Educators (CORE)**
- Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes
- **Crown of the Continent Ecosystem Education Consortium**
- FarmHands
- F. H. Stoltze Land & Lumber
- **Flathead Audubon Society**
- **Flathead Basin Commission**
- Flathead Coalition
- **Flathead Conservation District**
- Flathead County River Commission
- Flathead Lake Biological Station, University of Montana
- **Flathead Lakers**
- Flathead Land Trust
- **Flathead National Forest**
- Flathead Valley Community College
- Glacier National Park
- Glacier Natural History Association
- Headwaters Montana
- Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
- Montana Department of Agriculture
- Montana Department of Environmental Quality
- Montana Department of Natural Resources Conservation
- Montana Logging Association
- Montana Natural Heritage Program
- Montana Natural History Center
- Montana Watercourse
- Montana Watershed Coordination Council
- National Parks Conservation Association
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Northwest Montana Historical Society
- Parks Canada
- Plum Creek
- RBM Lumber, Inc.
- Stumptown Historical Society
- Swan Ecosystem Center
- Swan Rangers
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Army Core of Engineers
- U.S. Geological Survey
- University of Montana
- Waterton Lakes National Park
- **Whitefish Lake Institute**
- Women in Timber

Objectives, Goals & Outcomes

6. What is the overall goal of the project? What are the specific objectives and tasks for your project?

The overall goal of the project is to advance watershed education. Specifically, we intend to present the importance of watershed health in a way that encourages citizens and organizations to actively participate in maintaining a healthy watershed.

7. What skills, abilities, and/or knowledge are to be gained from the project activities and how will pre & post-project participant skills, abilities, and/or knowledge be evaluated?

There is a plethora of compartmentalized information available from the many agencies, non-governmental organizations, and individuals involved in Flathead Watershed management, but no single, comprehensive, easy to comprehend information source. The *Flathead Watershed Sourcebook* will provide a knowledge base and central source of watershed related information, data, and resources for citizens and educators.

Pre- and post-project evaluation will initially be measured by the extent to which the final project deliverables are distributed. We will track the distribution of books printed and CDs burned against their circulation by partner organizations to the citizenry. Tracking tools will be installed on the website to measure visitor traffic including the number of unique visitors, location of visitors, pages visited, time spent on the site, and referring browsers. This tool will also measure the amount of website traffic coming through links from program collaborators' websites. Success in the education sector will be measured by distribution requests for the sourcebook by educators.

8. What are the expected measurable outcomes and long-term impacts of the project?

The measurable outcomes and long-term impact of the project will be seen in citizens' making informed decisions that contribute to the health of the watershed, including: increased watershed-sensitive development of land and roads, improved construction practices particularly in susceptible riparian and wetland areas, decreased individual household water usage, more environmentally considerate recreational behaviors, improved agricultural practices, a higher level of participation in land and watershed conservation projects, a decrease in polluted runoff reaching Flathead Lake, and by the overall improved health of the watershed. Success in the education sector will be measured by the increase in watershed education program collaboration and development, and the increase in the number and breadth of watershed education programs for K-12 students.

9. What opportunities exist for project continuation or expansion?

The *Flathead Watershed Sourcebook* will serve as a bridge between the communication of information to the general citizenry and the development and dissemination of educational tools. The CORE Watershed Education Committee will develop follow-on programs based on this project including the first planned project, *Finding the Flathead: Discovering the Watershed in Your Backyard*. The project will also serve as a template for similar projects to be developed in watersheds throughout the state of Montana. Although the Flathead Watershed Sourcebook is a much more detailed project, it will use some of the concepts and ideas from the DEQ Mini-grant-funded *Gallatin Watershed Sourcebook*, expanding the intent of that project.

Project Logistics

10. Who are the instructors/project leaders & what are their qualifications?

The project is being led by Dr. Lex Blood and Ms. Lori Curtis.

Dr. Lex Blood is a trained geologist, long-time Flathead educator, and an active participant in the conservation efforts throughout the Flathead Watershed. Dr. Blood has a DSc in Geological Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines in Golden Colorado and a BSc in Business Administration from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia and Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. As a private consultant, he has conducted work in mining, mineral exploration, geologic land use studies, and resource conservation throughout the world, was a Mineral Exploration Consultant and was the co-founder and co-owner of Cavalier Mica Corporation in Newport News, Virginia. Dr. Blood is retired from a distinguished teaching career as a Geology/Geography/Earth Science instructor at Flathead Valley Community College, and an adjunct professor of Natural Resources at the University of Montana. He was the Geo-technology program project director and instructor for the U.S. Department of Education, and the project director and instructor for the Montana Private Industry Council's Applied Earth Science Technology Program at Flathead Community College. He was a co-founder, president emeritus, executive director, and instructor for the Glacier Institute in Kalispell, Montana, is the founder of the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem Education Consortium (COCCEC), and continues to contribute to and lecture for a variety of organizations, consortiums, and institutes.

Lori Curtis is the project director and author of the *Flathead Watershed Sourcebook*. Ms. Curtis is the contract executive director for the Montana Nursery & Landscape Association through her Flathead County based consulting practice, eBizServices. She has over 30 years of experience in organizational and business management, writing, marketing, and public relations across a variety of industries including renewable energy, high technology businesses, and publishing. Ms. Curtis has managed over \$10 million in funding which she helped to procure, and administered R&D contracts from the Department of Energy and the Electric Power Research Institute. She has expertise in bringing together leaders of academia, science, business, utilities, and agencies to promote partnership solutions. Ms. Curtis has managed the production of a variety of publications and the execution of large-scale events. She served as chairman of the board for Sinapu (now part of WildEarth Guardians) and as a board member of the Grand County Builders Association. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management and is currently completing a graduate program to obtain a Master of Science Degree in Environmental Studies. This project will also serve as her graduate thesis.

11. If equipment is being purchased, where will it be housed & how will it be maintained? N/A

12. If funding is needed for a specific site event: where is it, how will transportation be provided & what contingencies have been made for rain days or alternative locations? N/A

Budget

13. What is the cost of the project & where will the \$1000 local non-federal in-kind or cash match come from? List by line-item all of the anticipated expenses and match sources, using the following format as a guide:

PHASE I								Total Phase I Cost	Funding Received	Funding Still Needed
	DEQ 319 Mini-grant	In-kind: Lori Curtis Research & writing	In-kind: Collaborating agencies & organizations	In-kind: Flathead C.O.R.E. Committee Members	Flathead County River Commission	The Sustainability Fund	The Whitefish Lake Institute			
Research & writing, ~1000 hours \$20,000		\$20,000						\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
Written contributions 30+ agencies & orgs \$5,000			5,000					\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
Reviewing & editing – \$5,000				\$5,000				\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
Publication design/layout \$1,350	\$1350							\$1,350	\$0	\$1,350
Website development \$3,875	\$150				\$465	\$1000	\$200	\$3,875	\$1,665	\$2,210
Website domain name registration: \$35					\$35			\$35	\$35	\$0
Website maintenance \$300							\$300	\$300	\$300	\$0
	\$1,500	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$500	\$1,000	\$500	\$35,560	\$32,000	
Funding Still Needed – Including DEQ Mini-grant request										\$3,560

PHASE II								Total Phase II Cost	Funding Received	Funding Still Needed
	RAC									
Printing \$9,300	\$4,000							\$9,300	\$4,000	\$5,300
CD Production \$2,700								\$2,700	\$0	\$2,700
	\$4,000							\$12,000	\$4,000	
Funding Still Needed										\$8,000

Total Project Costs	\$47,560
Total Funding & Pro bono Received	-\$36,000
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING REQUIRED	\$ 11,560