



Montana Department of Environmental Quality
PPA/WQP/WPS
Attention: Kristy Zhinin
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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 # 8- no site event) write N/A.*

Contact Information:

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

Sharlyn Gunderson-Izurieta
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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)

Project Description:

1. Project title & location

**GGWC Report Card Program
Greater Gallatin Watershed**

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

Nonpoint source pollutants in 303d listed streams in the lower Gallatin watershed will be addressed. The lower Gallatin watershed has 16 streams listed as impaired by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The GGWC is currently overseeing a

data collection program to identify the causes and extent of these impairments. Impairments on these streams prevent them from fully supporting one or more uses, such as recreation, agriculture, aquatic life and cold water fishery. During the summer of 2008, water samples were collected by the GGWC's Gallatin Stream Team volunteers and DEQ TMDL contractors on the listed streams in the lower Gallatin watershed. Data revealed that high levels of E.coli bacteria are a serious problem on Bozeman/Sourdough Creek. The concentrations of the bacteria are nearly two times the maximum level considered safe for human health by the time the stream reaches its confluence with Rocky Creek. Monitoring will continue this summer. GGWC's Board of Directors discussed the implications of the 2008 sampling at their annual retreat held in April. The Board agreed to implement a "Report Card" pilot program aimed at informing area residents and visitors about the nature and extent of the impairments found in 2008 and encouraging residents to get involved with reducing nonpoint source pollutants in these impaired streams. The goal of this effort is to lead interested residents to better understand the nature of the impairments, whether they are getting better or worse, and when and where best management practices need to be employed to correct problems. The "Report Card" education and outreach efforts will be incorporated into the GGWC's 2009-2010 work plan.

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

The Gallatin Watershed Stream Report Card Pilot Program.

The report card pilot project will provide GGWC with a tool to educate the community regarding E.coli and other impairments on Bozeman/Sourdough Creek and other 303d listed streams in the Lower Gallatin TMDL Planning Area. These report cards will be in a brochure or similar format. Content will characterize the stream, describe its rich history, provide interesting facts and trivia about the stream and its watershed, and track water quality problems identified through continued sampling efforts. In addition, the report cards will describe activities occurring along the stream that may be contributing to water quality problems and how they are affecting the health of the stream, as well as best management practices that everyone can pursue to reduce water quality impairments.

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

For this Mini-Grant, GGWC will be utilizing in-kind match from Classic Ink, a local marketing/advertising firm, which will help the GGWC with the development and design of the report cards. Report Cards will be made available to the public at local fly-fishing and outdoor shops, annual watershed tours, local festivals, GGWC annual "State of the Watershed" meetings. Report Cards will serve as media pieces for distribution to local newspapers and other outlets. Components of the report cards will also be included in GGWC newsletters and will be posted on the GGWC website. In addition, the GGWC will partner with the Gallatin Local Water Quality District, Gallatin County Health Department, DEQ, City of Bozeman, Gallatin Conservation District, Blue Water Task Force, and the Missouri Headwaters Partnership. Partners will collaborate and help disseminate information to the public.

Project Considerations:

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

Sharlyn Gunderson-Izurieta, Watershed Coordinator, 10+ years developing education and outreach programs

GGWC Board of Directors:

Tammy Crone, Water Quality Specialist, Gallatin Local Water Quality District

Karin Boyd, Geomorphologist, Applied Geomorphology, Inc.

Bart Manion, Hydrologist

JP Pomnichowski, State Legislator

Steve Toohey, Ranch Owner

Peter Skidmore, River Restoration and Conservation Scientist

7. If equipment is being purchased, where will it be housed & how will it be maintained?

A portable audio system, conference display module, and flipchart easel system will be purchased to help the GGWC expand outreach capacity. The portable audio system is needed for GGWC to conduct annual watershed tours and special events held outdoors. In the past, GGWC has relied on other entities to provide a PA system. Sometimes these borrowed PA systems did not work or were unavailable for use when we needed them. GGWC tours are one of our primary outreach avenues as evidenced by their being well-attended, averaging 60 plus people per event. The display board integral to displaying information to the public at local festivals, watershed events, and other activities where GGWC is present and needs to inform attendees of its work. The equipment will be housed at the GGWC's watershed coordinator's office. Minimal maintenance will be required and will be provided by the coordinator as needed.

8. 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

Objectives, Goals & Outcomes

9. What skills and abilities are to be developed from the project & what knowledge is to be gained from the project activities?

The goal of the program is a better informed public that understands in greater detail nature and issues with water quality and quantity in the Greater Gallatin Watershed through development of a long-term report card methodology.

Objective – Increase public awareness of watershed health issues through informing residents of the results of DEQ and GGWC's efforts in assessing the extent and causes of TMDL impairments and how they are affecting residents.

Outcome - Through the report card pilot project the GGWC will develop and gain an understanding of this innovative technique for conveying what is by nature a very technical information about water quality to a diverse public and key stakeholders so that people understand what is happening with their water quality.

Outcome - The GGWC will enhance its organizational understanding of how awareness of its work can then lead to action and changes in behavior sufficient to result in improving water quality in impaired streams over time.

Outcome – As a shared resource describing water quality concerns in the watershed, the Report Card will facilitate and encourage discussion, interaction, and common action among the diverse groups in the watershed, cumulating into partnerships and greater partnering in proactive resource protection.

Objective – Because of the diverse nature of the Gallatin's demographics, awareness of and paradigms about water use and the role of water in their lives, this project will strive to increase partnership development and collaboration in developing a shared goal for conservation of the watershed, including the Gallatin Local Water Quality District, Gallatin County Health Department, DEQ, City of Bozeman, Gallatin Conservation District, Blue Water Task Force, and the Missouri Headwaters Partnership.

Outcome – GGWC will increase and develop collaborative partnerships and relationships through developing this Report Card system which ultimately residents will anticipate each year and in so doing, help with cost sharing and helping to disseminate the information presented. These relationships will also strengthen the relationship between the public and local and state agencies.

10. How will pre & post-project participant knowledge, skills, or behaviors be evaluated?

The long-term goal of the Report Card program is to raise awareness of the condition of impaired streams in the watershed. For the short-term however, evaluation of this project's success will be measured by; 1) quality of the product produced and the public demand for the initial product; and then, 2) public requests for the second and subsequent Report Cards to inform them about changes in the stream and its water over time.

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

The Mini-Grant request is intended to help GGWC increase the level of public awareness of our organization and the condition of our watershed and its water quality issues. Specifically, the success of the Gallatin Watershed Stream Report Card Pilot Project will be determined by an increase in the number of telephone calls, email inquiries to the GGWC staff requesting additional information, and monthly hits to the GGWC. In addition to increasing the level of public awareness of our organization and the condition of our watershed and its water quality issues, we also will work to better inform the public about how to prevent further degradation to area streams and how each person can actually help to improve stream health.

Budget

12. What is the cost of the project & where will the 40% 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:

Tasks	Action	319 Mini-Grant	Other Grant	In-Kind	Total
Task 1: Communicate with public through annual tour and educational forums	Purchase Portable Audio System	\$825.00		\$330.00	\$1155.00
Task 2: Communicate and educate the public at local events, festivals, markets, and GGWC Annual meeting	Purchase Display Board Flip Chart Easel	\$675.00		\$270.00	\$945.00
Task 3: Develop, Design, and create content for 2 stream report cards	Collaborate with Classic Ink			\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Task 4: Program Management (1 instructor for 20 hours @\$25/hr.)	GGWC Coordination			\$500.00	\$500.00
Totals		\$1,500.00		\$2,300.00	\$3,800.00

Project Continuation

13. What Opportunities Exist for Project Continuation or Expansion?

The pilot Report Card program will target Bozeman/Sourdough Creek and the East Gallatin River. The urgency of informing the public regarding the serious impairments in Bozeman/Sourdough Creek will create opportunities to widen the conversation about overarching water quality concerns throughout the Gallatin watershed. The GGWC is committed to keeping the public informed about activities occurring on our streams during our TMDL development and also regarding results of the work of our Gallatin Stream Teams' volunteer water monitoring program. These efforts will further expand opportunities to develop and update Report Cards and further, to focus on other 303(d) listed streams in the Lower Gallatin watershed as well as other streams not on the 303d list.