

Brian D. Sugden
Hydrologist

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November 24, 2009

Anne Dahl, Executive Director
Swan Valley Ecosystem Management & Learning Center, Inc.
6887 Hwy 83, USFS Condon Work Center
Condon, Montana 59826

Re: 319 Grant Request for Swan Watershed TMDL Implementation

Dear Anne:

This letter conveys Plum Creek support for continued 319 funding of implementation of the Swan TMDL. We are particularly supportive of the public education and water quality monitoring elements of the 319 grant, which we believe are essential for TMDL goals to be realized. With the Montana Legacy Project, Plum Creek is departing from the basin as a landowner, with our lands eventually transitioning into Federal or State ownership. As such, we believe it is important for the grant to include a task to evaluate the current status of the priority road sediment sites in the basin, as outlined in the original TMDL (and based on a 2001 inventory). Besides helping landowners determine current conditions, this re-assessment should also be helpful for DEQ as part of their 5-year re-assessment of TMDL progress.

We look forward our continued cooperation with the Swan Ecosystem Center and the TMDL technical advisory group partners in furthering protection and restoration of water quality in the basin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian D. Sugden', written in a cursive style.

Brian D. Sugden
Forest Hydrologist