**Comments for FY2016 319 Nonpoint Source Preliminary Project Proposal**

**Sponsor:** Bozeman High School Parent Advisory Council

**Project Title:** Mandeville Creek Restoration & Education

**319 Request:** $136,000.00

**DEQ Prj Mgr:** Mark Ockey (406) 444-5351 mockey@mt.gov

* 319 funding is competitive this year. Your funding request needs to be adequate, but not excessive.
* Prior to filling out the Final Project Proposal form, do the following:
	+ Reread the Call For Project Proposals for FY2016, especially Attachment A – Project Scoring Sheet
	+ Reread the Instructions for Completing 319 NPS Preliminary and Final Project Proposals (the Form Instructions)
	+ Contact your DEQ Project Manager (noted above) for additional assistance
* Your Final Project Proposal must clearly demonstrate that all aspects of your project meet each of the following eligibility requirements:
	+ Address nonpoint source pollution
	+ Address impairments identified in Montana’s 2014 List of Impaired Waters
	+ Implement goals and objectives identified in the 2012 Montana Nonpoint Source Management Plan
	+ Directly implement projects or activities identified in a DEQ-accepted Watershed Restoration Plan (WRP)
* Proofread your Final Project Proposal. You may wish to read it out loud or ask a colleague to read it and provide comment.
* Complete all aspects of the Final Project Proposal form. Pay special attention to the information requested in Section 1, as it seems to be a common source of errors. In Section 1 of the Final Project Proposal form, you do not need to include SWCDMI mini-grants in the list of open contracts.
* Section IV: Scope of Work must contain a separate task for each of the activities identified below where applicable. Attachment B of the Call For Project Proposals for FY2016 contains example template language for each of the four tasks:
	+ Monitoring – For proposals involving on-the-ground projects, monitoring should evaluate the success of the project at reducing nonpoint source pollution. For projects addressing nitrogen, phosphorus or sediment, the monitoring task must include estimation of annual pollutant load reductions. For E&O projects, monitoring should include an evaluation of the activities’ effectiveness in reaching the target audience and achieving the desired outcomes.
	+ Education and Outreach (E&O) – For proposals involving on-the-ground projects, E&O activities should be directly related to the project. To a limited extent, project sponsors may apply for funding for E&O projects that are not specifically related to an on-the-ground project, provided that the E&O projects are identified in their Watershed Restoration Plan.
	+ Operation and Maintenance, Landowner Agreements – This only applies to contracts involving on-the-ground projects. Landowner agreements must address project design and implementation, revegetation of disturbed areas, operation and maintenance for the life of the practice, and site access.
	+ Contract Administration – Deliverables should include status reports, annual reports and a final report as well as appropriate billing and contract management. The 319 funds requested for administrative activities must not exceed 10% of the total 319 funds request in your proposal; however, local match associated with administrative activities can exceed the 10% cap.
* Review all task timelines, the project milestone table, and other dated information in the Final Project Proposal. Dates must be consistent with the anticipated 319 funding schedule. Funding is not likely to be available until late June or July, 2016, and contract work needs to be completed within 2 to 3 years.
* Remember to include all applicable attachments (see Section IV of the Final Project Proposal form).
* Late or incomplete Final Project Proposal Forms will not be considered. If you have any questions please call your DEQ Project Manager well before the Final Project Proposal due date of September 28, 2015.

*Other Comments*

* Include photos of the proposed project area.
* Include photos of the previously completed phases.
* Include a complete copy of all existing design plans.
* Clearly explain how the project will reduce nitrogen and phosphorus in Mandeville Creek.
* Projects designed to help meet the conditions of a point source discharge permit cannot be paid for with 319 funding and cannot be used to meet the match requirement in a 319 contract. Verify whether the City of Bozeman will be installing the stormwater vortex separator in order to help them meet the conditions of their MS4 Stormwater Point Source Discharge Permit. If so, the vortex separator cannot be paid for with 319 funds and cannot be reported as match.
* Each task must have at least some 319 funding attached to it.
* Provide a photo or diagram explaining how the stormwater vortex separator functions (if appropriate for the project).
* Stream and riparian area restoration work should focus on restoring natural conditions and processes. Revegetation efforts should focus on native plant species, and adequately sized riparian buffers.
* Consider expanding the education and outreach task to move beyond the specific project area to address local residential best management practices for reducing nitrogen and phosphorus contributions to Mandeville Creek. Consider connecting with local landscape companies and maintenance crews to address fertilizer applications with the potential to reach Mandeville Creek.
* Work with the Bozeman High School grounds maintenance crew to evaluate and address any potential issues with fertilizer application adjacent to the project area and maintenance of native vegetation in a natural state in the riparian areas.
* Once construction is complete, how will roof, parking lot, and sidewalk runoff that has historically been diverted to Mandeville Creek be treated?