



319 Nonpoint Source Final Project Proposal  
FY2016 Final Proposals are due Monday, September 28, 2015

**Section I: General Information**

Project Title FY 2016 Education and Outreach Mini-Grants

**Project Sponsor Information**

Sponsor Name Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Montana (SWCDM)

Registered with the Secretary of State? Yes

Registered with SAM? Yes

County Lewis and Clark

Website www.swcdmi.org

Tax Identification # 23-7096823

DUNS # 137350505

Primary Contact Seth Elsen

Signatory Ann McCauley

Title Operations Manager

Title Programs Director

Address 1101 11th Ave

Address 1101 11th Ave

City Helena State Montana Zip Code 59601

City Helena State Montana Zip Code 59601

Phone Number 406-443-5711

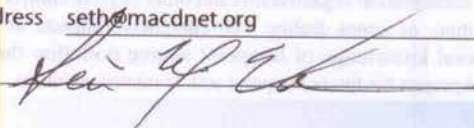
Phone Number 406-443-5711


Fax Number n/a

Fax Number n/a

E-mail Address seth@macdnet.org

E-mail Address ann@macdnet.org

Signature 

Signature 

**Project Location**

12 Digit HUC #(s) Multiple HUCs

(1) Waterbody Name from 2014 List of Impaired Waters Project specific

(1) Probable cause(s) of impairment to be addressed (ex. metals) Project specific

(2) Waterbody Name from 2014 List of Impaired Waters

(2) Probable cause(s) of impairment to be addressed (ex. metals)

(3) Waterbody Name from 2014 List of Impaired Waters

(3) Probable cause(s) of impairment to be addressed (ex. metals)

Activity 1 Name NPS Education and Outreach Projects Latitude (1) n/a Longitude (1) n/a

Activity 2 Name Latitude (2) Longitude (2)

Activity 3 Name Latitude (3) Longitude (3)

**Nonpoint Source (NPS) Information**

Which WRP does the project implement? Other

What is the WRP status? DEQ-Accepted

Does the project address impairments identified in a TMDL? Yes

Waterbody Type River/Stream

Functional Category Watershed Management

1st Pollution Category Hydromodification (Streambank or Shoreline Modification/Destabilization) Percent of Total (%) 30

2nd Pollution Category Urban Runoff/Stormwater (Municipal) Percent of Total (%) 20

3rd Pollution Category Agriculture (Grazing Related Sources) Percent of Total (%) 30

4th Pollution Category Hydromodification (Removal of Riparian Vegetation) Percent of Total (%) 20

## Project Funding

319 Funds Requested	<input type="text" value="\$30,000.00"/>	Does the project sponsor have any open 319 contracts?	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>
Matching Funds		Project Title	<input type="text" value="Planning for success : Watershed Restoration Plans"/>
State Cash Match	<input type="text"/>	DEQ Contract Number	<input type="text" value="216009"/>
Local Cash Match	<input type="text" value="\$20,000.00"/>	319 Award	<input type="text" value="\$72,000.00"/>
In-Kind Match	<input type="text"/>	Projected Closing Date	<input type="text" value="12/31/2017"/>
Total Match	<input type="text" value="\$20,000.00"/>	Project Title	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	DEQ Contract Number	<input type="text"/>
Total Project Budget	<input type="text" value="\$50,000.00"/>	319 Award	<input type="text"/>
Administrative Fee	<input type="text"/>	Projected Closing Date	<input type="text"/>

## Section II: Project Description

### Goal and Objectives: Describe the overall goal and specific objectives for this project.

The overall goal of this project is to provide small grants (up to \$2,000 each) to various conservation organizations and other eligible entities in Montana to implement education and outreach-focused projects that address nonpoint source pollution, or issues dealing with cumulative impacts on water quality. Objectives: Fund up to 12 organizations for eligible projects; 2) expand general knowledge of nonpoint source pollution through funded projects; 3) work with grantees on expanding their group's capacity to build on the funded project for future nonpoint source-related activities.

### Methods: Describe the approach selected to address/correct the problem(s), e.g. types of BMPs to be installed, and other important activities.

This grant would fund education & outreach mini grants for FY2016, as well as management of the mini grant program for the state of Montana. At least 12 individual education & outreach mini grants of up to \$2,000 each will be funded with a 40% minimum non-federal match required. Two or more calls for mini-grant applications will be completed - one in September 2016 and one in February 2017. Each call will be advertised with press releases in MT newspapers, advertisements through the Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD), Montana Watershed Coordination Council (MWCC), and Montana Watercourse list serves and newsletters, email, and other media outlets as applicable. Eligible entities include: conservation groups; schools; nonprofit organizations; agencies; and volunteer groups, etc. All funded groups must be capable of managing federal funding and carry liability insurance. A diverse review committee comprised of various stakeholders will rank the applications. Once a group has been awarded funding, a scope of work and memorandum of understanding will be developed for the project. Upon project completion, grantees are required to submit a final report, final invoice, and any other required deliverables as outlined in the scope of work. Grantees have one year to complete the project. SWCDM staff will work closely with the DEQ program manager on programmatic issues as well as any issues that may arise with an individual grantee's project.

### Summary: Provide a brief summary of the project.

SWCDM has been managing this mini-grants program through DEQ's 319 program since 2010. From 2010 to 2014, SWCDM received 83 proposals and funded 59 projects. Over that same time period, over \$250,000 in match has been leveraged from just \$113,000 of awarded project funds to the program. This 2:1 ratio demonstrates not only the leveraging ability of these mini grants, but also how providing groups with a relatively small award of \$2,000 can grow a project's impact across a community. Projects may be targeted to specific audiences or the general public, depending on the need and scope of the project. Examples of targeted audience projects include the streambank bioengineering workshop that the Beaverhead and Ruby Conservation Districts hosted in spring 2014 for CD supervisors, restoration professionals, and agency personnel; and educator workshops and guidebooks that provide K-12 teachers with lesson plans and tools to present NPS topics to their classes. More general audience projects have included watershed tours, stenciling stormwater drains, creating kiosks for popular trails and recreation areas, and multimedia projects that demonstrate the importance of riparian areas, clean water, etc. While it is difficult to gauge the direct impact of these projects, we conservatively estimate that the number of people reached through mini-grant projects over the past 5 years is in the tens of thousands.

### Statement of Project Need and Intent

Nonpoint source (NPS) pollution accounts for the majority of water quality impairments in Montana. Providing the public with information about NPS pollution and ways it can be reduced is fundamental to DEQ's and SWCDM's missions to protect and improve our natural resources for current and future generations. The intent of this project is to further disseminate information about nonpoint source (NPS) pollution to a large and diverse audience by providing various organizations and entities across the state with small grants to be applied towards education and outreach projects focused on NPS water quality.

### Describe the pre-project planning that has already occurred.

Since 2010, SWCDM has been building infrastructure and capacity to successfully carry out the mini-grant program. Each year, we've worked to improve the program, ensuring that we are meeting the needs of our agreement with DEQ as well as the needs of our grantees. We are continuously growing our outreach network, and have recently brought on dedicated staff to manage this program fully in-house.

To obtain a sufficient applicant pool for each of the calls, SWCDM will work with its partners, such as DEQ and the Montana Watershed Coordination Council, to reach conservation districts, watershed groups and other entities. Outreach will also take place to involve broader community groups, school districts, and other NGOs.

### Collaborative Effort: Describe the collaborative effort you have engaged in to ensure support from all appropriate partners.

As has been the case in past years, partners will be included as members of the grant review committee. Additionally, through the mini-grant program and other means, SWCDM has strong relationships with a multitude of agencies and other entities who can help promote the program.

### Partners and Roles: Identify the project partners and their roles.

Partner	Role
MT DEQ	Assistance and oversight of the project
Conservation Districts / Watershed Groups	Eligible for mini grant
Local Government	Eligible for mini grant
Review committee -DEQ, DNRC, MACD, FWP, MSU Watercourse, MWCC,	Review of applications and feedback on program

### Technical and Administrative Qualifications

SWCDM staff have extensive experience in program and grant management, working on all aspects, from planning to evaluation. Additionally, staff have technical knowledge and expertise on NPS pollution and community outreach to help applicants implement successful projects. As previously noted, SWCDM has been successfully managing a mini-grant program since 2010 and we have many of the programmatic components in place.

### Past and Current Projects

Funding Organization	Award Amount	Project Description	Project Status	Contact Information
DEQ Mini-grants - FY14 and FY15	\$50,000.00	A project that provides small grants (up to \$2,000 each) to various conservation organizations and other eligible entities in Montana to implement education and outreach-focused projects that address nonpoint source pollution, or issues dealing with cumulative impacts on water quality.	Ongoing	Seth Elsen
DEQ CALO	\$68000.00	A project targeted to small livestock operators to improve water quality associated with their operations through technical and financial assistance.	Complete	Ann McCauley
NRCS - Soil Health	\$20,000.00	Partner with NRCS to host a series of soil health workshops that demonstrate practices and benefits of improving soil resources.	Ongoing	Ann McCauley
NRCS - Sage Grouse Initiative	160,000	Employ four range conservationists throughout eastern Montana to carry out sage grouse habitat projects through NRCS Farm Bill programs.	Ongoing	Ann McCauley
NRCS and private funds - Irrigation Water Management	\$30000.00	Assist irrigators in improving their irrigation operations based on crop type, stage, rate, and timing of application.	Ongoing	Seth Elsen

### Section III: Scope of Work

Task 1 Title Mini grant awards

#### Description

Award at least 12 individual mini-grants for education & outreach activities focused on NPS water quality. Awardees will be selected using a competitive state-wide process and grants shall not exceed \$2,000. Eligible entities may include: conservation districts, schools, nonprofit organizations, agencies, and volunteer groups. Project activity types may include but are not limited to: NPS workshops; purchasing of equipment for NPS education; water festivals or tours; and producing multimedia campaigns. Projects must be focused on NPS pollution, or issues dealing with cumulative impacts on water quality.

#### Deliverables

Mini grant applications and corresponding final reports that include project details and:

- goals, NPS issues addressed, completed activities, partners
- knowledge, skills and abilities developed by participants
- conclusions, outcomes and long-term impacts from project
- opportunities for project continuation or expansion
- recommendations, photos, press releases, invoice and match statement

#### Task 1 Funding

319 Funds	\$24,000.00
Non-Federal Match	\$16,000.00
Other Federal Funds	
Total Cost	\$40,000.00
Is Match Secured?	Yes

Timeline July 2016 - June 2018

Match Source Local cash or in-kind match

Task 2 Title Promote and manage mini grant program

#### Description

An application form and criteria for selection of mini-grant projects will be developed. Promote the mini-grant program; solicit applications through a diverse review committee comprised of various stakeholders. Two or more calls for mini grants will be released, one in September 2016 the other in February 2017. The committee will review grant applications and select the most competitive projects. Grants will be awarded, subject to DEQ approval, and administer contracts.

#### Deliverables

- draft call for applications, press release, email notifications, along with application for DEQ comment
- final call for applications, press release, email notifications and application
- notice of intent to award letters and sub-awardees
- draft and final sub-contracts for mini-grant awards
- updates to 319 mini-grant wiki site
- report on effectiveness of program, including summary of survey results and recommendations for future mini-grant programs

#### Task 2 Funding

319 Funds	\$3,000.00
Non-Federal Match	\$3,000.00
Other Federal Funds	
Total Cost	\$6,000.00
Is Match Secured?	Yes

Timeline July 2016 - June 2018

Match Source SWCDM

Task 3 Title Project Administration

## Description

SWCDM will submit quarterly status reports with match statements and requests for reimbursement, annual reports, and a final report.

## Deliverables

-submit quarterly status reports, annual reports, attachment B-billing statements and final report.

### Task 3 Funding

319 Funds	\$3,000.00
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Non-Federal Match	\$1,000.00
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Other Federal Funds	
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Total Cost	\$4,000.00
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Is Match Secured?	Yes
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Timeline July 2016 - June 2018

Match Source SWCDM

Task 4 Title \_\_\_\_\_

Description
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[illegible]

## Deliverables

## Task 4 Funding

319 Funds

Non-Federal Match	
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Other Federal Funds	
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Total Cost	
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Is Match Secured?	
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## Timeline

Match Source \_\_\_\_\_

## Section IV: Supporting Documents

### Detailed Project Budget

Task Number and Specific Action	319 Funds	State Cash Match	Local Cash Match	In-Kind Match	Federal Funds	Total Costs
Task 1 - Minigrant Awards	\$24,000		\$16,000			\$40,000
Task 2 - Promote and Manage Minigrant Program	\$3,000			\$3,000		\$6,000
Task 3 - Program Administration	\$3,000		\$500	\$500		\$4,000
TOTAL	\$30,000		\$16,500	\$3,500		\$50,000

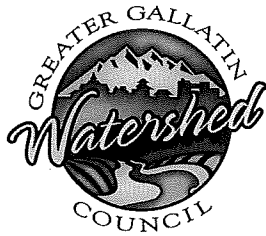
**Project Milestone Table:** Complete the following Project Milestone Table by entering task numbers and titles in the left hand column, then check the box(es) for the appropriate quarter(s) and years(s) in which you will be working on the task.

Milestone	Spring 2016	Summer 2016	Fall 2016	Winter 2016	Spring 2017	Summer 2017	Fall 2017	Winter 2017	Spring 2018	Summer 2018	Fall 2018
Call for Applications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Review and Awarding of Projects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project Implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promote and manage minigrant program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project administration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Submit final report and all deliverables to DEQ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Submit **project map(s)** and **letters of support (at least 3)** along with the Final Project Proposal form. If your organization is not the author of the WRP you hope to implement, you must request a letter of support from the original authoring entity. If the authoring entity refuses to provide a letter of support, use the additional space at the end of the application to describe their response. If design drawings are available, provide those as well. For on-the-ground work, include copies of applicable permits if available.

- ☐ Project Map
- ☒ Letters of Support
- ☐ Design Drawings
- ☐ Applicable Permits
- ☐ Draft of amended WRP (if applicable)
- ☐ Photos
- ☐ Landowner Agreements

**Use the space provided for any additional information that may not have been captured elsewhere in this Final Project Proposal**



# GREATER GALLATIN WATERSHED COUNCIL

*WHERE OUR WATERS SUPPORT OUR LIVES.*

PO Box 751, Bozeman MT 59771

info@greatergallatin.org – 406.551.0804

<http://greatergallatin.org>

Watershed Protection Section  
Montana Department of Environmental Quality  
1520 E. Sixth Avenue  
P.O. Box 200901  
Helena, MT 59620-0901

September 25, 2015

Dear 319 Review Committee:

On behalf of the Greater Gallatin Watershed Council, I would like to express our strong support for the Soil and Water Conservation District of Montana, Inc.'s project proposal for Education and Outreach Mini-Grants.

The SWCDMI 319 mini-grant program has demonstrated strong success in supporting new opportunities for water quality-related education and outreach activities in Montana. The mini-grants are a great benefit to watershed groups such as GGWC; they enable us to pursue innovative ideas, reach target audiences, and educate our communities about nonpoint source pollution and best management practices.

In recent years, GGWC has received several mini-grants for projects that meet the education and outreach goals outlined in the Lower Gallatin Watershed Restoration Plan. These projects have included storm drain stenciling with high school students to teach the community about stormwater pollution and volunteer training for Gallatin Stream Teams to teach citizen scientists how to monitor water quality. Funding from 319 mini-grants has been a tremendous assistance to making these projects a success.

We strongly support the SWCDMI's Education and Outreach Mini-Grant program and we urge you to fully fund this proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to declare our support and for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rose Vallor".

Rose Vallor  
GGWC Board Vice Chair  
Education & Outreach Committee Co-Chair

*The Greater Gallatin Watershed Council collaborates with agricultural, recreational, and community partners to conserve and enhance our water resources.*

Montana Department of Environmental Quality  
319 Review Committee  
Helena, MT



September 14, 2015

Dear 319 Review Committee,

Please fully fund Montana Association of Conservation Districts' proposal for 319 funds to continue their mini-grant program. These funds provide an excellent resource for collaborative, community-based education and outreach projects.

The Gallatin Valley Land Trust (GVLT) was recently the recipient of two separate mini-grants – one that enabled us to partner with half-a-dozen local organizations to install signage to educate dog owners about nonpoint source pollution in Bozeman's watershed, which is also a popular recreational trail corridor; and one that helped us conduct education and outreach with landowners about conservation cost-share funding in the lower Gallatin basin.

Both grants gave GVLT additional capacity to coordinate with partners, develop new programs, and expand the scope of our outreach to audiences beyond our typical constituents. We have received strong praise and support from partners, community members, and landowners about both outreach efforts, and we know these efforts will result in long-term benefits to the water quality in our region.

While not large sums of funding, the min-grants gave us a much-needed boost to develop these new outreach campaigns. We strongly encourage you to fully fund the MACD proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. A. Pohl", is positioned above the printed name.

Kelly A. Pohl  
Associate Director

Gallatin Valley Land Trust  
212 South Wallace, Suite 102,  
PO Box 7021, Bozeman, MT 59771  
[www.gvlt.org](http://www.gvlt.org) 406-587-8404

Granite Headwaters Watershed Group  
Noorjahan Parwana, Coordinator  
P.O. Box 926  
Phillipsburg, MT 59858

September 19, 2015

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the GHWG (Granite Headwaters Watershed Group), please accept this letter of support for **MACD's** mini-grant program. The GHWG is the recipient of a mini-grant earlier this year. We are using the funds to offer a watershed tour in the Flint Creek watershed.

Though not a new group, the GHWG has essentially been dormant for a number of years. Through the **DEQ's Watershed Restoration Planning effort, the group** recently resurrected itself under the umbrella of the Granite Conservation District. It is an exciting time for this deeply committed group of citizens.

When I first began my work with the GHWG, I asked the group to articulate their priority goal. Their response was that they wanted to build trust and strengthen community by successfully implementing a (yet to be defined) on-the-ground project. The group soon determined their first project would be a mercury clean-up project; Mercury contamination of the waters of Flint Creek is of utmost concern to local citizens. It is a big project for a small group with little funding.

To achieve success the group is focusing on two objectives – one objective focuses on the science side of the issue and the other focuses on community education and outreach.

That second objective is where the MACD mini-grant has been so helpful to us. We secured \$1,000 from the mini-**grant program which we are using to organize the GHWG's first ever watershed tour!**

The tour will focus on a mining reclamation project underway. Other issues of interest to the community will also be highlighted. We are delighted that many new (to us) landowners will be joining us.

Although we have secured financial and in-kind support from others for our tour, I can confidently tell you this watershed tour would not have been possible without the support of the MACD and the mini-grant we received.

Your support of the mini-grant program would be much appreciated, especially by little underfunded groups like the Granite Headwaters Watershed Group. It makes a difference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Noorjahan Parwana', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Noorjahan Parwana  
Coordinator, Granite Headwaters Watershed Group