

August 31, 2012

SWCDMI
Jan Fontaine/Laurie Reilly
790 Colleen Street
Helena, MT 59601

RE: FY2013 319 Project Proposal: Canon Envirothon 2013

Dear SWCDMI,

Thank you for submitting your 2013 Clean Water Act Section 319 grant project proposal entitled "Canon Envirothon 2013" on behalf of the SWCDMI. This year we received 21 project proposals with a total request of about \$1,229,300; we anticipate being able to award about \$900,000 in 319 funds, therefore the competition for 2013 project funding will be high.

Attached are comments that DEQ is providing for your consideration in preparing your final application. These comments are meant to provide you with the technical advisory reviewers and DEQ's perspectives in hopes of helping you develop a successful grant application.

I recommend you contact and work closely with the Technical Coordinator listed below in developing a final grant application. The technical coordinator is your primary DEQ contact throughout this application process.

Name	Title	Telephone	Email
Robert Ray	Technical Coordinator	406-444-5319	rray@mt.gov

As a reminder, the final application needs to be e-mailed and a signed hard copy must be post-marked to me no later than 5:00 p.m. Monday, October 1, 2012. The Agency Review Panel will be meeting Tuesday, October 23, 2012 in Helena to review final applications; applicants should plan on attending the meeting to present and answer questions regarding applications. Additional details to follow.

Again, thank you for your project proposal submission and I hope your project is successful.

Sincerely,

Robert Ray, Manager
Watershed Protection Section
Water Quality Planning Bureau

Encl: Technical Review Comments
Change in Grant Application PDF Reader

Comments for FY2013, 319 Project Proposal

Category: Education & Outreach
Sponsor: Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Montana, Inc.
Title: Canon Envirothon 2013
319 Request: \$25,000

General Comments

- 319 funding is competitive this year. Please be thoughtful in your request for funds.
- Please ensure that your project relates to the goals and furthers the action plan of the 2012 NPS Management Plan. Be specific and identify what action plan items are being addressed.
- Please take the time to proofread the final application and ensure that it is consistent, free of errors and reads clearly.
- Please ensure that all the information in Section 1 of the Final Application is completed. This includes Project Location, Functional Category, Pollution Categories and relative Percents, Administrative Fee, open contracts (with contract numbers) and associated information.
- Please ensure timelines are included in the final application and that they are consistent with 319 funding, which will be available July 1, 2013.
- Please ensure that a task is included to administer this contract. This task should include status reports, annual reports and a final report as well as appropriate billing and contract management. The 319 request for administrative activities must not exceed 10% of the total 319 funds request; however local match associated with administrative activities can exceed the 10% cap.
- Please ensure that you include a monitoring component for your project. For watershed restoration projects, monitoring is generally related to on-the-ground activities and relates to the impairment listings. For education & outreach monitoring is generally more of an evaluation of the project and how effective it was at achieving the desired outcomes.
- Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. If you have any questions please call your technical coordinator well before October 1, 2012.

Other Comments

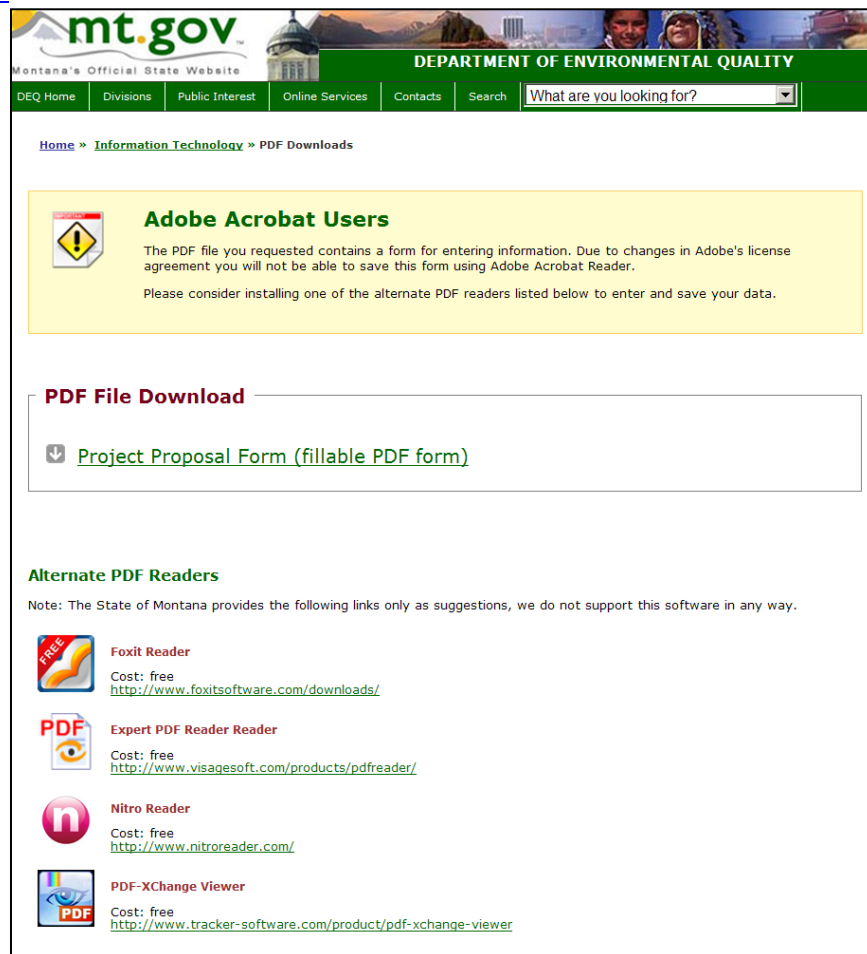
- Please provide open 319 contract numbers.
- Please provide additional information on the 2013 Envirothon theme.
- Explain how NPS pollution will be addressed in the Overview of the project.
- Explain how NPS pollution will be addressed in Scope of Work Outline.
- We suggest the proposal be reorganized to focus on NPS pollutant issues within the greater scope of the event's focus on watersheds in rangeland ecosystems (in line with the intent of 319 funding to support NPS pollutant reduction activities).
- Do not break out tasks by day. Provide an alternative task breakout, such as task activities that will address nonpoint source pollution.
- Please provide specific details for how requested 319 funds for this competition event will be directed to activities associated with NPS pollutants. For example, what specific projects will the high school students will be working on to further promote NPS pollution reduction? If a list of potential projects for the competition is something you would prefer to not make available for public review in your final application, we can arrange for this information to be reviewed by the agency review board only with strict confidentiality in place.

- Please address the impact for NPS pollution reduction in Montana with the inclusion of out-of-state and international students participating in the event.
- Under comments is stated “This project will lead directly to improved water quality and increased water quantity from our nation’s rangelands.” This is not evident at all. How will this happen?

To: 319 Grant Applicants
From: MT DEQ (Stephanie Crider)
Date: August 17, 2012
Subject: Change in Grant Application PDF Reader

Recently, Adobe Acrobat changed its licensing agreement resulting in the immediate change of format for any editable PDF files created by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The result of this is still an editable PDF file for the Final 319 Grant Application, however, it will likely need to be opened and edited in a different PDF reader.

When you go to the DEQ website to download the final application you will be directed to a page detailing this change (see below). There are several options for free PDF readers; Foxit Reader is very similar to Adobe Acrobat, and quite user friendly. If you have any questions regarding the format of the application and how to use a different reader, please direct them to me, Stephanie Crider, at scrider@mt.gov or 406-444-2478.



The screenshot shows the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) website. The header includes the "mt.gov" logo and the text "Montana's Official State Website". The navigation bar lists "DEQ Home", "Divisions", "Public Interest", "Online Services", "Contacts", and "Search". A search box contains the text "What are you looking for?". The breadcrumb trail reads "Home » Information Technology » PDF Downloads".

Adobe Acrobat Users

The PDF file you requested contains a form for entering information. Due to changes in Adobe's license agreement you will not be able to save this form using Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Please consider installing one of the alternate PDF readers listed below to enter and save your data.

PDF File Download

Project Proposal Form (fillable PDF form)

Alternate PDF Readers

Note: The State of Montana provides the following links only as suggestions, we do not support this software in any way.

- Foxit Reader**
Cost: free
<http://www.foxitsoftware.com/downloads/>
- Expert PDF Reader Reader**
Cost: free
<http://www.visagesoft.com/products/pdfreader/>
- Nitro Reader**
Cost: free
<http://www.nitroreader.com/>
- PDF-XChange Viewer**
Cost: free
<http://www.tracker-software.com/product/pdf-xchange-viewer>