

August 31, 2012

Bitter Root Water Forum
Heather Mullee
PO Box 1247
Hamilton, MT 59840

RE: FY2013 319 Project Proposal: Cameron Creek Revegetation and Fencing, and further WRP Action Planning and Project Design

Dear Bitter Root Water Forum,

Thank you for submitting your 2013 Clean Water Act Section 319 grant project proposal entitled Cameron Creek Revegetation and Fencing, and further WRP Action Planning and Project Design on behalf of the Bitter Root Water Forum. 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
Laura Andersen	Technical Coordinator	406-444-0549	landersen3@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: Watershed Restoration
Sponsor: Bitter Root Water Forum (BRWF)
Title: Cameron Creek Revegetation and Fencing, and further WRP Action Planning and Project Design
319 Request: \$69,819

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.
- 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 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 make sure that you include an Education and Outreach task and activities. The 319 funding request for E&O activities must be limited to no more than 10% of the total 319 funds request, however local match associated with E&O activities can exceed the 10% cap. Education and outreach activities should be related to the proposed watershed restoration activities.
- 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.
- Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. If you have any questions please call your technical coordinator well before October 1, 2012.
- Contracts must be completed within three years of funding becoming available, please ensure all tasks are completed by 6/30/2016.

Other Comments

- DEQ previously awarded 319 funds for Watershed Restoration Plan development to the forum. Please provide additional rationale why additional work is needed to complete a sub-basin plan (or plans?).
- Please provide additional information regarding the selection of the projects proposed, and rationale regarding working in streams not listed as impaired, as projects implementing a TMDL are a higher priority for 319 funding.
- Please include more background on stream condition and impairment as well as previous restoration/monitoring work.
- Please mention the problems with cattle earlier than Task 2.
- What kind of fencing are you going to use? Electric? Barbed wire?
- What kind of debris jams are you going to use? Large woody debris? Are you going to work these into the bank as a way to do the bank stabilization?

- For the riparian portion of the project, did you look in to obtaining NRCS EQIP funding? If not, please do so.
- In relation to planting dormant cuttings or rooted willows, please consider using rooted willows for better success. Doing this could potentially double or triple the success of the revegetation aspect of the project.
- Please elaborate on Task 3; it should be clear to the review committee that you will work with DEQ to ensure the WRP currently under development will be acceptable and how you will ensure a smooth transition into the next phase of implementation (design work).
- Please include a project effectiveness evaluation task (monitoring for decreased sediment and temperature).
- The monitoring portion of this project is fairly broad. Please consider contacting Brian McDonald at the Blackfoot Challenge to obtain the monitoring protocol and Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) that they recently developed.
- We recommend that monitoring be its own task, including the development of a Sampling Analysis Plan. This project will require load reduction reporting for sediment and nutrients.
- The E&O portion is also very broad in scope. Please speak more specifically to the impairments for the E&O component. Make this a more targeted effort.
- Task 4 is unclear. What are you referring to with the E&O component of the watershed restoration plan? Is this to further refine some project to be done as a result of the plan or to educate people about general watershed issues? Please consider using the two projects in Task 1 and 2 as a strong component of Task 4.
- Be sure to note on the final application the in-kind state match.

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 contains links for 'DEQ Home', 'Divisions', 'Public Interest', 'Online Services', 'Contacts', and a search bar. The main content area features a yellow box with a warning icon and the title 'Adobe Acrobat Users'. Below this, it states that the PDF file contains a form and that users cannot save it using Adobe Acrobat Reader, suggesting alternative PDF readers. A section titled 'PDF File Download' contains a link to the 'Project Proposal Form (fillable PDF form)'. Another section titled 'Alternate PDF Readers' provides a note that the links are suggestions and lists four options: Foxit Reader, Expert PDF Reader Reader, Nitro Reader, and PDF-XChange Viewer, each with a cost of free and a download link.

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