August 31, 2012

Clark Fork Coalition Andy Fischer PO Box 7593 Missoula, MT 59807

RE: FY2013 319 Project Proposal: Lost Horse Creek Streamflow Enhancement

Dear Clark Fork Coalition,

Thank you for submitting your 2013 Clean Water Act Section 319 grant project proposal entitled Lost Horse Creek Streamflow Enhancement on behalf of the Clark Fork Coalition. 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:** Clark Fork Coalition (CFC)

Title: Lost Horse Creek Streamflow Enhancement

319 Request: \$110,000

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.
- 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 (do not include mini-grants) 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.
- 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 associate 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.

Other Comments

- What is the relationship of this proposal to NPS pollution? NPS pollution should be the focus of this project. Further ensure that monitoring and education and outreach sections also reflect this focus.
- Please note that DEQ does not write TMDLs for low flow alterations. However, DEQ does sometimes identify impairments that are caused by low flow. Please consider clarifying this important difference in your final application.
- A stronger case for the connection between the flow concern and NPS pollution needs to be made.
- Please discuss how this project fits into a larger WRP or alternate watershed planning process/document. EPA requires that on-the-ground project funds go into areas with watershed-based plans.
- Is there typically 10cfs of flow available year round to keep in the creek?
- Is there an agreement with the water users to maintain the water in the creek?

- What distance from the mouth of the river is the proposed work going to be? Does the creek typically have the 10cfs to give to the Bitteroot?
- Would the agreement with the water users be pro-rated based on the water users' ability to
 provide all 10cfs to the stream? (i.e. if the pre-project flow records show that during the dry
 season there is only typically 7cfs available to be left in the stream, would this decrease the cost
 of the water agreement with the irrigators?
- When the water flow goes below the 10cfs would there be an adequate amount of water for fish passage if the berm is absent or any other impediment is absent?
- With a monitoring request for \$10,000 of 319 funding, it is important to explain why you are requesting so much money. A lot of monitoring could be automated.
- Make sure the monitoring is for nonpoint source (NPS) pollution and not simply flow rate.
- Please describe your long-term strategy for ensuring the flow agreement is met. Please consider incorporating this into the ditch task.
- It is not clear how the water savings would be guaranteed through time.
- Please provide more specific deliverables for the E&O in Task 4.

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 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.

