

August 31, 2012

Teton River Watershed Group
Alan Rollo
816 Grizzly Drive
Great Falls, MT 59404

RE: FY2013 319 Project Proposal: Upper Teton Watershed-Riparian Improvements

Dear Teton River Watershed Group,

Thank you for submitting your 2013 Clean Water Act Section 319 grant project proposal entitled "Upper Teton Watershed-Riparian Improvements" on behalf of the Teton River Watershed Group. 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
Mark Ockey	Technical Coordinator	406-444-5351	mockey@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: Teton River Watershed Group
Title: Upper Teton Watershed – Riparian Improvements
319 Request: \$58,320

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 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

- More upfront planning for this project is necessary. Several reviewers noted that the proposal reads like a placeholder for a to-be-developed project.
- Please have the final application reviewed and edited by a competent technical editor before it is submitted.
- In the application overview please describe how the specific projects proposed address the priorities and actions identified the Teton Watershed Restoration Plan.
- In the “Objectives” box on page 2 of the Project Proposal, the language suggests that by implementing the proposed project, all beneficial uses in the Teton River will be met. This seems unlikely.
- Please identify the Latitude and Longitude for each of the various projects you are proposing.





- The “Monitoring” box on page 2 of the Project Proposal states: “A comprehensive Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) will be developed with DEQ as part of the TMDL/Water Quality Plan. The SAP will be compliant with DEQ’s EPA-approved Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP).” The TMDL/Water Quality Plan was completed years ago. Which SAP is being referring to? Also, if a new SAP is being produced, please tie it to the QAPP that is currently being developed under the current Teton River 319 contract, instead of tying back to the DEQ QAPP.
- Please identify specific deliverables associated with Task 2. Please make sure to identify the goals of the monitoring you intend to do, and how reaching those goals will support efforts to reduce nonpoint source pollution.
- Task 3 is vague in its context; is it going to be for riparian fencing, riparian pasture, or animal management? What pollutants are being addressed? How will they be minimized?
- Task 3 states that three partners will be involved in the project, however the proposal only has one listed. Please identify all three specific landowners. Please make sure and obtain/submit letters of support from each landowner.
- What project will be monitored in Task 4? The monitoring component needs more specificity as to what will be monitored and the techniques that will be used.
- The budget needs to be fixed; Task 4, the E&O, cannot go over 10% of the total 319 funds requested.
- Please make sure that all E&O activities are clearly tied to nonpoint source pollution.
- Please make sure that the tours, meetings, and workshops are each separate, distinct events.
- Please try and tie more of the proposed E&O activities to the on-the-ground projects you are proposing in this specific application. Where possible, please use the on-the-ground projects in this application as E&O tools.
- Please include development of load reduction estimates for sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus (where applicable) in both the SAP task and the monitoring task.
- Please be sure and obtain/submit a letter of support from MSU, indicating their commitment to specific tasks/actions.
- In the “Comments” box on page 4 of the Project Proposal, you cite the 2007 Montana Nonpoint Source Management Plan. The 2007 Plan has been replaced by the 2012 Montana Nonpoint Source Management Plan. Please review and reference the 2012 Plan.
- DEQ requires justification for an advance grant payment. Include specific details on what the advance will be used for.

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.




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