
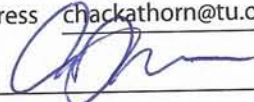


Final Applications are due Monday, October 1, 2012

Section I: General Information

Project Title Upper Little Blackfoot River - Metals Restoration Strategy

Project Sponsor Information

Sponsor Name <u>Trout Unlimited</u>	Tax Identification # <u>38-1612715</u>
County <u>Missoula</u>	Website <u>www.tu.org</u>
	DUNS # <u>051698132</u>
Primary Contact <u>Casey Hackathorn</u>	Signatory <u>Casey Hackathorn</u>
Title <u>Upper Clark Fork Coordinator</u>	Title <u>Upper Clark Fork Coordinator</u>
Address <u>111 N. Higgins Ave, Suite 500</u>	Address <u>111 N. Higgins Ave, Suite 500</u>
City <u>Missoula</u> State <u>Montana</u> Zip Code <u>59802</u>	City <u>Missoula</u> State <u>Montana</u> Zip Code <u>59802</u>
Phone Number <u>406-541-1194</u>	Phone Number <u>406-541-1194</u>
Fax Number <u>406-543-6080</u>	Fax Number <u>406-543-6080</u>
E-mail Address <u>chackathorn@tu.org</u>	E-mail Address <u>chackathorn@tu.org</u>
Signature 	Signature 

Project Location

Statewide ☐ *If project is not statewide please complete the rest of this section.*

How is project related to a TMDL? Develops a TMDL Implementation Plan

Watershed Name or HUC # <u>Little Blackfoot River</u>	TMDL Planning Area <u>Little Blackfoot River</u>
Project 1 Name <u>Upper Little Blackfoot River</u>	Latitude (1) <u>46.55734</u> Longitude (1) <u>-112.40931</u>
Project 2 Name _____	Latitude (2) _____ Longitude (2) _____
Project 3 Name _____	Latitude (3) _____ Longitude (3) _____
Project 4 Name _____	Latitude (4) _____ Longitude (4) _____
Project 5 Name _____	Latitude (5) _____ Longitude (5) _____

Nonpoint Source (NPS) Information

319 Project Category <u>Watershed Restoration</u>	Waterbody Type <u>River/Stream</u>
Functional Category <u>Water Quality Problem Identification</u>	Is waterbody on the 2010 Impaired Waters List? <u>Yes</u>
1st Pollution Category <u>Resource Extraction (Abandoned Mine Drainage)</u>	Percent of Total (%) <u>30</u>
2nd Pollution Category <u>Resource Extraction (Mine Tailings)</u>	Percent of Total (%) <u>30</u>
3rd Pollution Category <u>Resource Extraction (Mill Tailings)</u>	Percent of Total (%) <u>30</u>
4th Pollution Category <u>Resource Extraction (Placer Mining)</u>	Percent of Total (%) <u>10</u>

Project Funding

319 Funds Requested

\$20,000.00

Does the project sponsor have any open 319 contracts? ☐ Yes

Matching Funds

State Match

State In-Kind Match

Local Funds

Other Match

Total Matching Funds

Other Federal Funds

Total Project Budget

Advance Requested* Administrative Fee \$2,000.00

*Advances require additional justification and DEQ approval.

Project Title Ninemile Creek WRP and Josephine Creek

DEQ Contract Number 212059

319 Award \$38,400.00

Projected Closing Date 12/31/2013

Project Title _____

DEQ Contract Number _____

319 Award _____

Projected Closing Date _____

Project Description

Methods: Please describe the specific activities of this project.

Trout Unlimited will prepare a Metals Restoration Strategy for the Upper Little Blackfoot River which will: 1) develop a plan for further source assessment and analysis of metals delivery pathways; 2) prioritize abandoned mine cleanup projects to implement the completed metals TMDLs for the Upper Little Blackfoot River; and, 3) be able to be incorporated into the future Watershed Restoration Plan for the Little Blackfoot River TMDL Planning.

Objectives: Please describe the specific/measurable objectives that will ensure the achievement of the project goal(s).

There are two objectives for the development of the Metals Restoration Strategy for the Upper Little Blackfoot River: 1) Engage stakeholders in the Upper Little Blackfoot River watershed in a collaborative planning process; and, 2) develop plans for further analysis and project implementation that will lead to water quality improvement activities at abandoned mine sites in the Upper Little Blackfoot watershed.

Overview: Please provide a brief summary of the proposed project.

Mining in the Little Blackfoot River watershed started in the 1860s on gold bearing placers and progressed to lode deposits in the 1900s. Most of the mining activity in the watershed focused around the Ellison District, which is about 20 miles west of Helena and south of the town of Elliston. Many of the waterbodies in this area have metals listings on the 2010 303(d) list, including Monarch Creek, Telegraph Creek, Ontario Creek and the mainstem Upper Little Blackfoot River. Although outside of this particular mining area, Dog Creek is also listed for metals. The majority of the abandoned mine sites contributing to these metal listings are located on the Helena National Forest and private in-holdings.

The Little Blackfoot River TMDL document states that "achieving the metals reduction goals presented in this plan will mostly rely on abandoned mine reclamation" (pg. 2). The document goes on to list a primary goal of future restoration work: "Identify, prioritize and select response and restoration actions based on a comprehensive source assessment and streamlined risk analysis of area affected by historical mining.

Trout Unlimited proposes to work with the Helena National Forest, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality's Abandoned Mine Lands Bureau and other stakeholders to put together a Metals Restoration Strategy for the Upper Little Blackfoot River which will guide and prioritize future source assessments, sampling and analysis efforts and water quality improvement activities.

Section II: Background Information

A: Statement of Need and Intent

The *Little Blackfoot River Watershed TMDLs and Framework Water Quality Improvement Plan* lists 45 metals TMDLs for 12 waterbody segments in the Little Blackfoot TPA. The metals of concern include: arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, copper, cyanide, iron, lead, mercury, selenium, and zinc. The Upper Clark Fork Natural Resource Damage Program (NRDP) and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) have identified the Little Blackfoot River as a top priority for aquatic restoration in the Upper Clark Fork River Basin. The Little Blackfoot watershed is recognized as a native westslope cutthroat trout (WCT) stronghold in the Upper Clark Fork. Protecting and improving water quality and habitat are top priorities for conservation and restoration of the genetically pure WCT population in the Little Blackfoot. In addition to impairments to aquatic life and cold water fisheries, elevated metals concentrations can have negative impacts on human health from drinking water and agriculture from irrigation or stockwater.

DEQ believes that once metals reduction goals established in the TMDL are met, all water uses currently affected by metals will be restored. Focused reclamation of abandoned mine sites is necessary to meet these goals. With an estimated 250 abandoned mines in the Little Blackfoot TPA, the first step toward achieving these goals is to develop a metals restoration strategy including a prioritized project list focused on attaining the metals reduction goals on each of the affected stream segments. The metals restoration strategy developed under this effort can be incorporated into a broader Watershed Restoration Plan for the Little Blackfoot to include sediment and nutrient impairments in the future.

B: Collaborative Effort

Partner	Role
Helena National Forest	Planning and technical assistance
Montana DEQ Abandoned Mine Lands Bureau	Planning and technical assistance
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks	Monitoring and technical assistance
Private Landowners	Coordination and agreements
Private landowners	Project implementation and agreements

Additional Information (Collaborative Effort)

Trout Unlimited will work directly with Helena National Forest and DEQ abandoned mines personnel to collect and review available data, assess priorities and determine a prioritized restoration strategy. TU will also coordinate with the FWP fisheries biologist on assessing and monitoring impacts to native fish and determining fisheries restoration priorities. TU will coordinate with private landowners as necessary to develop access agreements and engage in cooperative restoration planning on private lands. TU will coordinate public meetings and attend local Conservation District meetings. TU will coordinate and develop a metals restoration strategy based on these efforts. Upon completion of the project, the TU project manager will be available to coordinate the metals restoration strategy into future Watershed Restoration Plan development efforts.

C: Project Planning and Management

10/1/12

Funding Organization	Award Amount	Project Description	Project Status	Contact Information
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	\$175,000	Clark Fork River Restoration	In Progress	Kenita Calhoun (202) 857-0166 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation 1133 15th St NW Suite 1100 Washington, DC 20005 kenita.calhoun@nfwf.org

Additional Information (Planning and Management)

The TU project manager has a BS in Civil Engineering with over 10 years of project management experience including environmental remediation, construction, geotechnical investigation, and fish passage. His contract management experience includes 2 years of experience as a government contracting officer's technical representative at the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence.

Section III: Project Components

A: Education and Outreach: Please briefly describe the education and outreach component of this proposal and the target audience.

TU will focus education and outreach by coordinating a public meeting for private landowners in the Little Blackfoot watershed to inform interested parties in the metals restoration planning process as well as solicit input from the public. In addition, TU will attend Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District meetings to inform board members and the public about metals restoration planning efforts in the Little Blackfoot watershed.

C: Operation and Maintenance

D: Monitoring: Please briefly describe the monitoring component of this proposal.

This project will seek to identify any data gaps necessary to complete the metals restoration planning process and develop a plan for any necessary monitoring in the future.

Section IV: Scope of Work

Task 1 Title Develop Monitoring Plan

Description

The metals listings for waterbodies in the the Little Blackfoot River TPA are based on limited sampling efforts and locations. Some of the waterbodies have also been investigated in other reports and sampling studies. There is a demonstrated need for an evaluation of existing data/information, identification of data gaps and collaboration with partnering organizations and development of assessment goals for targeting and monitoring design. The ultimate objective of this task is the preliminary targeting of waterbodies for detailed investigation, development of plans for further analysis where information is insufficient, and identification of the primary causes of pollutants including a draft Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP).

Deliverables

Plan for further analysis of site specific metals delivery pathways in the Upper Little Blackfoot River.
Draft Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP)

Task 1 Funding

319 Funds	\$9,000.00
Non-Federal Match	\$7,500.00
Other Federal Funds	\$5,000.00
Total Cost	\$21,500.00
Is Match Secured?	Yes

Timeline July 2013 to June 2014

Match Source Tiffany Foundation and state of Montana In-kind

Task 2 Title Develop Metals Restoration Strategy

Description

The Upper Little Blackfoot TMDL estimates 250 abandoned mines in the Upper Little Blackfoot TPA. While not all of these mines pose serious problems for water quality, there is a recognized need for partnering organizations to prioritize site-specific data collection/analysis and future cleanup efforts. TU will work with state and federal partners to develop priorities for site analysis, cleanup actions, and future monitoring efforts. TU will also work with partners to coordinate plans to provide staff capacity and funding for these water quality improvement projects.

Deliverables

Metals Restoration Strategy including prioritized abandoned mine cleanup projects to implement the completed metals TMDLs for the Upper Little Blackfoot River.

Task 2 Funding

319 Funds	\$9,000.00
Non-Federal Match	\$7,500.00
Other Federal Funds	\$5,000.00
Total Cost	\$21,500.00
Is Match Secured?	Yes

Timeline July 2014 to November 2015

Match Source Tiffany Foundation and State of Montana In-kind

Description

TU will meet with and involve the Deer Lodge Conservation District and the Little Blackfoot Watershed Group to inform them of metals restoration planning efforts, identify stakeholder concerns and educate landowners in the Little Blackfoot about the development of the Metals Restoration Strategy. TU will coordinate a public meeting for private landowners in the Little Blackfoot watershed through the Little Blackfoot Watershed group and periodically attend Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District meetings to inform board members and the public about metals restoration planning efforts in the Little Blackfoot watershed.

Deliverables

List of stakeholder contacts and meetings attended.

Task 3 Funding

319 Funds	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text" value="\$3,300.00"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text" value="\$3,300.00"/>
Is Match Secured?	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>

Timeline November 2013 to December 2015

Match Source Tiffany Foundation

Task 4 Title Contract Administration

Description

Grant administration including contracting and reporting.

Deliverables

Quarterly Status Reports
Final Report

Task 4 Funding

319 Funds	<input type="text" value="\$2,000.00"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text" value="\$2,000.00"/>
Is Match Secured?	<input type="text"/>

Timeline July 2013 to December 2015

Match Source

Section V: Supporting Documents

A: Detailed Project Budget

[illegible]

B: Project Milestone Table: Please 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 year(s) in which the task will take place. 10/1/12

Milestone	2QT 2013	3QT 2013	4QT 2013	1QT 2014	2QT 2014	3QT 2014	4QT 2014	1QT 2015	2QT 2015	3QT 2015	4QT 2015	1QT 2016
1. Develop Monitoring Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Develop Metals Restoration Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>
3. Education and Outreach	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Contract 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Please ensure that you submit a project map(s) and letters of support along with this Final Application form. If design drawings are available please provide those as well. For on-the-ground work please include copies of the applicable permits.

☒ **C: Project Map**

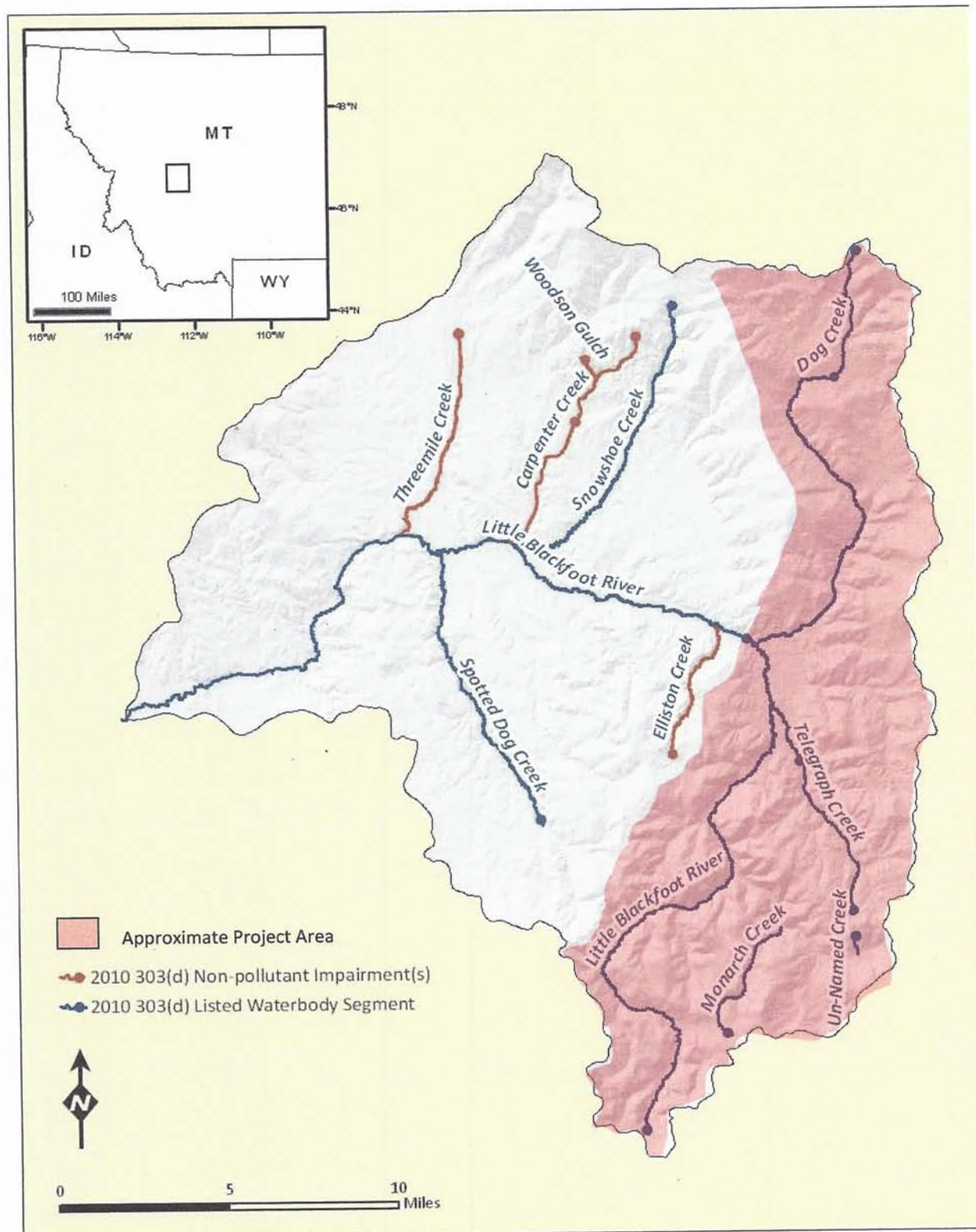
☒ **D: Letters of Support**

☐ **E: Design Drawings**

☐ **F: Applicable Permits**

G: Comments: Please use the space provided for any additional information that may not have been captured by this application form.

Upper Little Blackfoot River Metals Restoration Strategy



Map modified from: Little Blackfoot River Watershed TMDLs and Framework Water Quality Improvement Plan, Appendix A. Montana DEQ. December 2011



Montana Department of
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Brian Schweitzer, Governor

P.O. Box 200901 • Helena, MT 59620-0901 • (406) 444-2544 • www.deq.mt.gov

September 27, 2012

Robert Ray, Supervisor
Water Quality Planning Bureau – Watershed Protection
Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

Subject: Letter Supporting Trout Unlimited Section 319 Grant for a Metals Restoration Strategy for the Upper Little Blackfoot River.

Dear Mr. Ray:

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Abandoned Mine Lands Bureau (DEQ-AMLB) provides this letter of support for Trout Unlimited (TU) and their application for a Section 319 Grant with the DEQ. Trout Unlimited proposes to develop a Metals Restoration Strategy for the Upper Little Blackfoot River. This strategy includes reviewing available data with the stakeholders, identifying data gaps, developing monitoring plans, prioritizing stream segments to address the TMDL, and conducting outreach in the community. DEQ-AMLB will provide assistance to TU during the data analysis phase and will provide guidance on the AMLB Hard Rock Priority Site List.

DEQ-AMLB will assist Trout Unlimited in developing the Metals Restoration Strategy with the overall goal of developing a Watershed Restoration Plan for the Little Blackfoot River TMDL Planning. DEQ-AMLB will provide data and assistance for this work, however there is no guarantee abandoned mine reclamation funds will be available for the stream segments identified for reclamation under the Metals Strategy Plan or the Watershed Restoration Plan.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (406) 841-5026 or via email at jkoerth@mt.gov.

Sincerely,

John Koerth
Bureau Chief



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

9-28-2012

Robert Ray
Watershed Protection Section Supervisor
Montana Department of Environmental Quality
Helena, MT

RE: Support for Trout Unlimited's 319 proposal for abandoned mine cleanup planning in the Little Blackfoot River watershed.

Dear Mr. Ray,

I would like to offer my support for Trout Unlimited's 319 grant proposal that would assist a planning effort for abandoned mine reclamation on the Helena National Forest and private in-holdings in the Little Blackfoot River watershed. The focus of this planning effort would be to prioritize mine reclamation projects that would address the TMDL and improve water quality for cold water fisheries.

The Upper Clark Fork Natural Resource Damage Program and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks have identified the Little Blackfoot River as a top priority for aquatic restoration in the Upper Clark Fork River Basin. The Little Blackfoot watershed is recognized as a native westslope cutthroat trout stronghold in the Upper Clark Fork. Protecting and improving water quality and habitat are top priorities for conservation and restoration of the genetically pure westslope cutthroat trout population in the Little Blackfoot.

Thank you for considering this application and I urge your program to support it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jason Lindstrom", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Jason Lindstrom
Fisheries Biologist
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
P.O. Box 881
Deer Lodge, MT 59722

Phone: (406) 846-1873
Email: jlindstrom@mt.gov



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Helena National Forest

2880 Skyway Drive
Helena, MT 59602
406-449-5201

File Code: 2500/2810/2160

Date: September 26, 2012

Mr. Casey Hackathorn
Upper Clark Fork Coordinator
Trout Unlimited
111 N. Higgins Ave., Suite 500
Missoula, MT 59802

Dear Casey,

The Helena National Forest would like to express our support for Trout Unlimited's application for a Section 319 grant to develop an **Upper Little Blackfoot River-Metals Restoration Strategy**. This project is long overdue and with the recent issuance of the TMDL for the Upper Little Blackfoot River, the agencies and TU now have all of the tools needed to develop a solid strategy for moving forward with a planning and prioritization effort. The Little Blackfoot drainage supports a remnant Bull Trout population as well as a robust meta-population of Westslope Cutthroat Trout, and is also an important recreational fishery. The completed restoration strategy will guide restoration efforts and will make specific reclamation projects more competitive for agency and partner reclamation funds.

The Helena National Forest is fully agreeable to participate in this effort with TU, Montana DEQ and any other stakeholders by providing matching technical staff time and other potential in-kind resources toward development of the strategy. If you have any questions about our interests and contributions for this project, please contact the Helena and Lewis and Clark National Forests Watershed Program Manager Dave Callery at (406) 495-3710.

Sincerely,

KEVIN T. RIORDAN
Forest Supervisor

cc: John Koerth, John Spalding

