

Section I: General Information

Project Title Park County Natural Resource Education and Outreach Program

Project Sponsor Information

Sponsor Name Park County Environmental Council

Tax Identification # 36-3699660

County Park

Website www.envirocouncil.org

DUNS # _____

Primary Contact Kristen Wester

Signatory Kerry Fee

Title Administration

Title Executive Director and Project Manager

Address PO Box 1821

Address PO Box 164

City Livingston State Montana Zip Code 59047

City Livingston State Montana Zip Code 59047

Phone Number 406-222-6555

Phone Number 406-579-7734

Fax Number 888-644-3230

Fax Number _____

E-mail Address kristen@envirocouncil.org

E-mail Address kerry@envirocouncil.org

Signature 

Signature 

Project Location

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

How is project related to a TMDL? N/A

Watershed Name or HUC # Shields River / 10070003

TMDL Planning Area

Shields River TMDL Planning Area

Project 1 Name _____

Latitude (1) _____

Longitude (1) _____

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 Education and Outreach

Waterbody Type

River/Stream

Functional Category Local (Specific Target) Education/Inform

Is waterbody on the 2010 Impaired Waters List? Yes

1st Pollution Category Other (Groundwater Loadings)

Percent of Total (%) 100

2nd Pollution Category _____

Percent of Total (%) _____

3rd Pollution Category _____

Percent of Total (%) _____

4th Pollution Category _____

Percent of Total (%) _____

Project Funding

319 Funds Requested

Does the project sponsor have any open 319 contracts?

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

**Advances require additional justification and DEQ approval.*

Project Title

DEQ Contract Number

319 Award

Projected Closing Date

Project Title

DEQ Contract Number

319 Award

Projected Closing Date

Project Description

Methods: Please describe the specific activities of this project.

The specific activities of this project include public outreach events in Livingston within Park County and will address specific priorities during targeted public outreach campaigns including development issues and NPS prevention measures associated with the relatively unpolluted waters of the Shields Valley Watershed; and, educational presentations to middle school students regarding area geology and watershed concerns, NPS pollution and oil and gas industry impacts - both environmentally and economically. The project is designed to promote long-term, substantial changes in behavior to reduce NPS pollution through effective education.

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

The project addresses the NPS education and outreach goals for developing and implementing educational campaigns and expanding watershed and NPS awareness in the community and local middle school. Anticipated objectives of the Park County Natural Resource Education and Outreach Program include development, implementation and facilitation of three public outreach workshops (one per year) and three middle school presentations (one per year) over the course of the proposed three-year project period. The goal is to provide information (orally, with handouts and web links) to at least 40 attendees at each of the public workshops (120 minimum for total project period) and to at least 25 middle school students per year (75 minimum for total project period).

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

Impacts of oil and gas development on water quality are a growing concern across much of the United States. As bordering states increase oil and gas production and test wells continue to be drilled in various parts of Montana, area and regional concerns have grown prevalent in the Park County area. Stormwater runoff from construction activities, the volume and contamination of the water used during hydraulic fracturing and pollution from leaking pits used for storage of the fracking water used during the extraction of natural gas are of particular concern, especially as it effects the Shields Valley Watershed. Public relations outreach programs and presentations will be designed to address all significant sources of NPS pollution with special emphasis on oil and gas extraction, best management practices as well as the significance and viability of the oil and gas industry in Montana. Collaboration between several interested stakeholders will bring strength and expertise to the development and implementation of this project. Information from current and future baseline water quality sampling projects in the Shields Valley Watershed with data currently being collected by the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology will be utilized at public meeting workshops as well as in middle school presentations. Other collaborators and contributors to this project will include Joe Brooks Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Park County and Wildlife Conservation Society. Industry experts from the oil and gas industry, including Bill Barrett Corporation and Devon Energy, will also be asked to provide advisory and speaking representatives to participate in forums to communicate the essential role the industry plays and current best management practices associated with balancing pollution and natural resource protection while providing energy and products that contribute to economic growth. Letters in support of, and commitment to this project, from various stakeholders, are included as an attachment to this application. At the present time, the Shields Valley Watershed Group (SVWG) is working in conjunction with the Bureau of Mines and Geology at Montana Tech to conduct baseline groundwater monitoring through the Groundwater Assessment Program, the Groundwater Characterization Program and supplemental grants to be applied for by SVWG. Year 1 workshops and presentations will introduce the sampling processes and a summary of any findings to date. Year 2 presentations will include preliminary results analysis from sampling data. Year 3 presentations will include final results of sampling efforts. A project area map is included as an attachment to this application.

A: Statement of Need and Intent

To many in the west, energy development is old news. Indeed many Montanans have seen oil rigs and coalbed methane pads come and go through the years. Until now, energy development has been relatively isolated in the Northern Rockies, with Wyoming seeing the most intensive development. Current prices of crude oil has made other fuels more competitive; the value of natural gas is steadily climbing and its market is expanding making it attractive for investment by big energy firms looking to diversify from oil. Park County is not immune to energy development, and the Shields Valley may be particularly at risk for natural gas exploration. An oil shale deposit located more than 9,000 feet below the surface is now fair game for drilling due to more efficient and effective recovery techniques. Two energy companies have expressed enough interest in this area to purchase leasing rights, and one well has been discovered to produce a significant and marketable quantity of natural gas. Advancements in technology have made gas more accessible including fracking (hydraulic fracturing) and horizontal drilling. Due to a Bush-era exemption under the Safe Drinking Water Act, companies are not required to disclose the chemical makeup of the fracking fluid they use. Extraction pollution issues include environmental impacts of industry-produced water that is reinjected into the ground; chemicals used in well development; outputs of well maintenance products; some habitat modification when vegetation along stream banks and in watershed areas is diminished or eliminated due to production pad infrastructure construction; and, runoff from production pad and infrastructure construction activities.

PCEC is currently working with County officials to make sure any development that takes place in Park County does not negatively impact wildlife, watershed and general quality of life. The proposed education and outreach project is important to water quality issues because it will educate community members and future generation students about non-point source pollution and enable them to relate land uses to water quality impacts, identify appropriate land uses to protect water quality and explains how land use decisions affect water quality. This type of societal marketing ensures environmental protection that will preserve societies as well as the environment. The outreach components will serve to educate public parties on the need to protect remaining healthy watersheds and prevent impacts to aquatic ecosystems from land use changes and other environmental impacts.

In addition to support through staff, publicity, political influence and financial resources, established partnerships for this project will provide access to resources, increase effectiveness, efficiency and public influence and improve communication between potentially adversarial parties.

B: Collaborative Effort

Partner	Role
Joe Brooks Chapter of Trout Unlimited	Advisory partner for all project education and outreach activities. Organization members and volunteers will assist with workshop activities and discussion sessions as needed.
Park County	Advisory partner for all project education and outreach activities. The Park County Commission, Planning Dept. and Planning Board will review all meeting agendas and provide comment prior to participation in any public meeting or forum to ensure a balanced view.
Wildlife Conservation Society	Technical advisory partner for all project education and outreach activities by providing science-based information to the public to better inform public policy.
Montana Bureau of Mines and Technology	Results from chemical analysis and groundwater sampling of the Shields Valley area water will be provided for use in public outreach literature and discussion forums.
Park County Environmental Council	Lead partner in the Park County Natural Resource Education and Outreach Program. Education and outreach coordination, implementation and facilitation and networking.

Additional Information (Collaborative Effort)

Letters in support of this project have been provided by the following organizations and/or individuals and are included as an attachment to this application: Park County, Joe Brooks Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Wildlife Conservation Society and Livingston School Districts 4 & 1. A letter of support was requested from Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology; the agency does not provide support letters for 319 projects. A recent award letter for additional funding toward this project provided by the Maki Foundation is also included as an attachment.

Funding Organization	Award Amount	Project Description	Project Status	Contact Information
Maki Foundation	\$3,000	Program area funding for Shields Valley Watershed protection and education efforts.	Awarded 9/12/12	Pat Humphry 970-925-3272
Private Donor	\$15,000	Program area funding for area watershed, surface and groundwater resource protection and education efforts.	Awarded 3/2012	Kerry Fee kerry@envirocouncil.org 406-579-7734
Sonoran Institute	\$5,000	Program area funding to support PCEC general stewardship programs related to the natural world.	Awarded 1/2012	Alison Berry aberry@sonoraninstitute.org
Brainerd Foundation	\$2,500	Program area funding for protection of the health and ecological integrity of Park County's natural resources on both public and private lands.	Awarded 2012	Hattie Cambridge hattiec@brainerd.org 209-448-0676
Cinnabar Foundation	\$2,000	Operating fund grants to help cover the essential expenses incurred as a non-profit organization.	Awarded 10/2011	Steve Thompson steve@cinnabarfoundation.org 406-250-9810

Additional Information (Planning and Management)

PCEC has the fiscal capacity to manage the Park County Natural Resource Outreach and Education Program. PCEC is experienced in preparing project management plans, establishing and maintaining project files, adhering to project budgets and timelines, processing payment requests, preparing project progress, expenditure and closeout reports and satisfying funding agency guidelines. PCEC has a long history of sound fiscal management, follows generally accepted accounting principles and conducts yearly financial audits.

Management of the project and implementation of activities will be directed by Kerry Fee, Executive Director for PCEC. Kerry has over fifteen years of environmental experience and has also worked with Joe Brooks Trout Unlimited where he currently serves as a board member. Kristen Wester will provide leadership for all financial management and reporting activities. Kristen earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Marketing and Accounting from Montana State University and has served as program and grants manager for various environmental projects for over fourteen years.

Section III: Project Components

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

Two education and outreach components of this project include a public outreach workshop once per year in each of the three years of the project period. These outreach events are designed to promote long-term, substantial changes in behavior to reduce non-point source pollution. The target audience of these meetings will include civic group representatives, environmental and watershed agency officials, industry representatives, landowners and community members. Influencing attitudes and behaviors by educating future generations is one of the more effective methods for environmental advocacy. Classroom presentations at the local middle school will occur once per year in each of the three years of the project period targeting middle school science students.

Community outreach components of this project will also include preparation and submission of project update reports, in the form of written public announcements, to the Livingston Enterprise, the Montana Pioneer and Livingston Current newspapers as well as the Sleeping Giant Middle School newsletter. Website updates and presentation links will be provided by PCEC staff and Park County information technology staff and will include links on the following websites: Park County, Park County Environmental Council, Sleeping Giant Middle School and Wildlife Conservation Society. Other websites that express interest in links and posting of the outreach events, literature and sessions will be added as requested.

Virtual/electronic event materials will be utilized at all outreach events versus hard copies, where practicable.

C: Operation and Maintenance

Project outreach event information - both for upcoming meetings and presentations and summaries of past meetings and presentations - will be included in a unique page on the Park County website and linked to project collaborator websites. Media updates will include opinion editorials, press releases and public service announcements. Materials will be available for civic clubs, schools and other interested stakeholders and parties. PCEC and Park County information technology staff will maintain and update the Park County Natural Resources Education and Outreach Program page and link to other project collaborator websites.

Management and administration of the project and implementation of activities will be directed by Kerry Fee, Executive Director for PCEC. Kerry has over fifteen years of environmental experience and has also worked with Joe Brooks Trout Unlimited where he still serves as a board member. Kristen Wester will provide leadership for all financial management and reporting activities. Kristen earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Marketing and Accounting from Montana State University and has served as program and grants manager for various environmental projects for over fourteen years.

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

Although actual sampling will not be performed as a part of this funding request for assistance, the results from the Shields Valley watershed area quality monitoring to be gathered beginning this fall will be a major component of information presented at workshops and presentations. At each workshop and middle school presentation, pre-sampling information, preliminary data and final data will be highlighted based on the level of completeness on sampling efforts at the time of the presentations. Three sets of workshops and presentations for the three-year project period will allow for dissemination of all sampling results and forum discussion topics regarding results and NPS concerns with oil and gas extraction.

Public perception and/or knowledge gained through outreach events will be monitored through brief questionnaires to adequately prepare for future project period presentations and handout materials, and for use in future projects and programs. Continually adapting elements from those results will allow PCEC to know what worked and why and to build on the successes or make adjustments for future presentations.

Section IV: Scope of Work

Task 1 Title Public Outreach Workshop Preparation, Implementation and Facilitation

Description

Development, implementation, planning and facilitation of a one-half day workshop to include a two-hour forum with industry and agency officials, landowners and stakeholders; two half-hour presentations by agency experts; and one hour of social networking activities. Refreshments, handouts and links to presentation materials will be provided. Video recording of all workshop events will be posted to the unique Park County Natural Resource Education and Outreach page and linked to all other project collaborators and partners. The workshop location will be in Livingston, Montana, held near the end of September, for three project years.

Deliverables

PCEC will produce literature (agendas, speaker presentations, forum discussion notes, etc.) for outreach events, available both through paper copies and electronic versions. All literature will be available via website postings and links and through hard copies available at the outreach events. Video recordings of the outreach events will also be posted to Park County and PCEC websites, and will be made available to any other interested parties and/or agencies.

Task 1 Funding

319 Funds	\$8,950.00
Non-Federal Match	\$1,360.00
Other Federal Funds	\$3,000.00
Total Cost	\$13,310.00
Is Match Secured?	Yes

Timeline 2QT 2013 - 3QT 2015

Match Source In-Kind and MAKI Foundation

Task 2 Title Sleeping Giant Middle School Outreach Presentation Preparation, Implementation and Facilitation

Description

Development, implementation, planning and facilitation of a one-hour presentation to Sleeping Giant Middle School science students. Presentation topics will include area geology, natural resource extraction practices, watershed and non-point source pollution concerns, public involvement, emerging environmental requirements and the balance between natural resource protection and industry extraction. Handouts and links to presentation materials will be provided. Video recording of presentations will be posted to the unique Park County Natural Resource Education and Outreach page and linked to all other project collaborators and participating school.

Deliverables

PCEC will produce literature for school presentation events, available both through paper copies and electronic versions. All literature will be available via website postings and links and through hard copies available at the outreach events. Video recordings of the presentations will also be posted to Park County and PCEC websites, and will be made available to any other interested parties and/or agencies.

Task 2 Funding

319 Funds	\$0.00
Non-Federal Match	\$1,630.00
Other Federal Funds	
Total Cost	\$1,630.00
Is Match Secured?	Yes

Timeline 3QT 2013 - 3QT 2015

Match Source In-Kind

Description

Project meeting information - both for upcoming meetings and presentations and summaries of past meetings and presentations - will be included in a unique page on the Park County website and linked to project collaborator websites. Media updates will include opinion editorials, press releases and public service announcements (ie: Livingston Enterprise, the Montana Pioneer and Livingston Current newspapers as well as the Sleeping Giant Middle School newsletter). Materials will be available for civic clubs, schools and other interested stakeholders and parties. Park County Information Technology staff will maintain and update the Park County Natural Resources Education and Outreach Program page and link to other project collaborator websites including: Park County, Park County Environmental Council, Sleeping Giant Middle School and Wildlife Conservation Society. Other websites that express interest in links and posting of the outreach events, literature and sessions will be added as requested.

Deliverables

PCEC with assistance from Park County information technology staff will prepare and submit press release information to local and regional media. Websites will be updated at least quarterly and links provided to program information and literature.

Task 3 Funding

319 Funds	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text" value="\$720.00"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text" value="\$720.00"/>
Is Match Secured?	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>

Timeline 3QT 2013 - 1 QT 2016

Match Source In Kind

Task 4 Title Project Administration and Status, Annual and Final Reporting

Description

The project will be completed on time, in accordance with the milestone table and with all DEQ reporting requirements fulfilled. The administrative team is aware of quarterly, annual and final report submittal requirements and that status reports must accompany reimbursement requests. All presentation and outreach materials will be made available for inclusion on the MT DEQ website.

Deliverables

PCEC will submit request for payment forms and status, annual and final reports. Additionally, PCEC will submit outreach presentation materials and documents.

Task 4 Funding

319 Funds	<input type="text" value="\$975.00"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text" value="\$1,535.00"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text" value="\$2,510.00"/>
Is Match Secured?	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>

Timeline 4QT 2013 - 1 QT 2016

Match Source In Kind

Section V: Supporting Documents

A: Detailed Project Budget

	Cash Match			In-Kind Match				
Task Number and Specific Action	Private	State	Federal	Private	State	Federal	319 Funds	Total Costs
1 - Advertising (\$150 x 3 meetings)							\$900	\$900
1 - Facility Rental (\$75 x 3 rentals)							\$225	\$225
1 - Presentation Materials							\$625	\$625
1 - Speaker Expenses							\$4,500	\$4,500
1 - Media/Video (\$500 x 3 meetings)							\$1,500	\$1,500
1 - Food/Refreshments (\$400/year)							\$1,200	\$1,200
1 - Presentation Prep & Facilitation	\$4,360							\$4,360
2 - Presentation Prep & Facilitation	\$1,630							\$1,630
3 - News Media & Website Updates	\$720							\$720
4 - Project Admin & Reporting	\$1,535						\$975	\$2,510
TOTAL	\$8,245						\$9,925	\$18,170

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 - Advertising (\$150 x 3 meetings)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 - Facility Rental (\$75 x 3 rentals)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 - Presentation Materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 - Speaker Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 - Media/Video (\$500 x 3 meetings)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 - Food/Refreshments (\$400/year)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 - Presentation Prep & Facilitation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 - Presentation Prep & Facilitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 - News Media & Website Updates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 - Project Admin & Reporting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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**

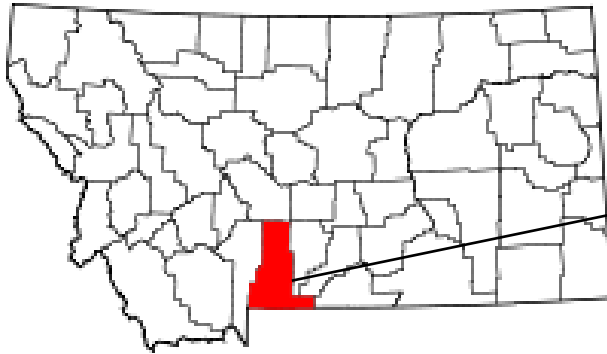
☐ **E: Design Drawings**

☐ **F: Applicable Permits**

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

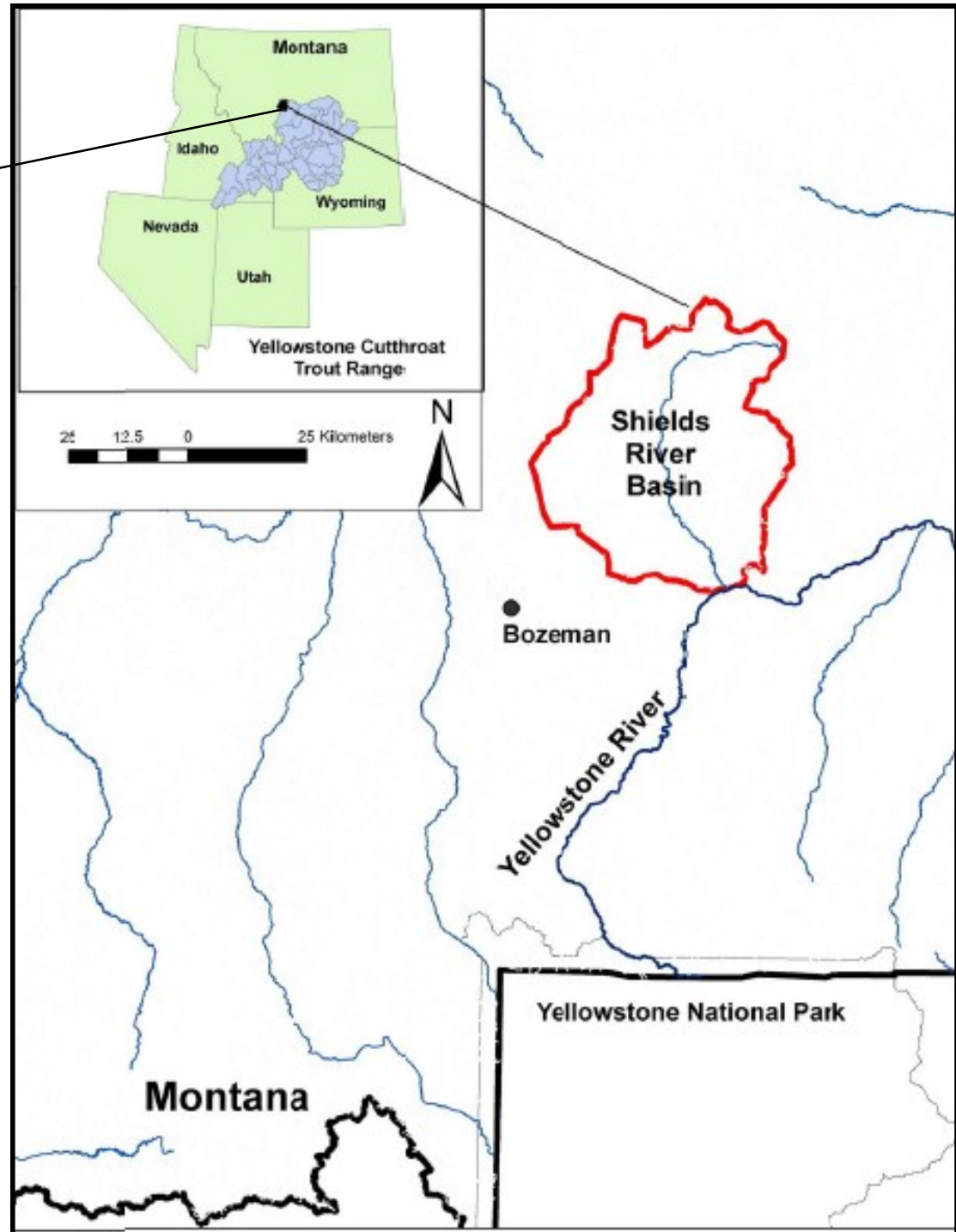
This project is important to community members because it prompts the undertaking of community projects and outreach that protect and enhance stream, riparian and wetland habitat, and improve water quality.

PROJECT AREA MAP



Project Area Map

Park County Natural
Resource Education and
Outreach Program



LETTERS OF SUPPORT & COMMITMENT



PARK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

414 E. Callender, Livingston, MT 59047 • Ph. 406-222-4106, Fax 406-222-4160
www.parkcounty.org • Email: commissioners@parkcounty.org

September 28, 2012

Robert Ray, Watershed Protection Section Supervisor
Water Quality Planning Bureau
Department of Environmental Quality
1520 E. Sixth Avenue
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

RE: Park County


Dear Mr. Ray:

On behalf of Park County, I am pleased to submit this letter of support and commitment for the Park County Environmental Council (PCEC) Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grant application. I understand PCEC is seeking funds to assist with an education and outreach program to take place in Park County.

I am aware that the public outreach programs and presentations will be designed to address all significant sources of NPS pollution with special emphasis on oil and gas extraction, best management practices in addition to the significance and viability of the oil and gas industry in Montana. Collaboration between several interested stakeholders will bring strength and expertise to the development and implementation of this project. Information from current and future baseline water quality sampling projects in the Shields Valley Watershed, collaboration with other concerned parties and agencies in the area, and participation by industry experts will also strengthen this project.

On behalf of Park County, I ask that you favorably upon PCECs application. I believe the project will help to engage community members and heighten their understanding of nonpoint pollution and methods of prevention. If you have any questions about Park County's support of this project, please contact us at 406-222-4106.

Sincerely,


Randy Taylor
Chair


Marty Malone
Member


James Durgan
Member



JOE BROOKS CHAPTER # 25

PO BOX 1378

LIVINGSTON, MT. 57047

September 24, 2012

Mr. Robert Ray, Watershed Protection Section Supervisor
Water Quality Planning Bureau - Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

Dear Robert:

On behalf of the Joe Brooks Chapter of Trout Unlimited (JBTU), I am pleased to submit this letter of support for the *Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grant* application being submitted by Park County Environmental Council (PCEC). We believe the funds requested in this proposal will meet the objectives set forth by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality for the 319 Program.

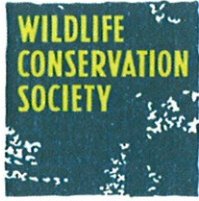
JBTU is aware that the PCEC public outreach program will be designed to address all significant sources of NPS pollution with special emphasis on oil and gas extraction, best management practices in addition to the significance and viability of the oil and gas industry in Montana. Collaboration between several interested stakeholders will bring strength and expertise to the development and implementation of this project. Information from current and future baseline water quality sampling projects in the Shields Valley Watershed, collaboration with other concerned parties and agencies in the area, and participation by industry experts will also strengthen this project. We would be happy to assist with any aspect of this educational/outreach program including forum discussion participation and public presentations.

JBTU was founded in 1968 to conserve, protect, and restore Montana's world-class cold-water fisheries and their tributaries in Park and Sweetgrass Counties. Our work focuses on the upper Yellowstone River and its tributaries, which include the areas to be addressed in the education and outreach project proposed by PCEC. As a testament to the strong history of organizing volunteers to work in support of our mission; with over 150 members and numerous volunteers, we have collected over 45 thousand pounds of refuse from the banks of the Yellowstone over the last 5 years. JBTU strongly supports this project and asks that you consider the full funding request. If you have any questions about my support of this project, please contact me at 406-579-7735.

Sincerely,

Sharon Sweeney Fee

President
Joe Brooks Trout Unlimited



Wildlife Conservation Society – North America Program
301 North Willson Avenue
Bozeman, Montana 59715

September 25, 2012

Robert Ray, Watershed Protection Section Supervisor
Water Quality Planning Bureau
Department of Environmental Quality
1520 E. Sixth Avenue
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

Dear Mr. Ray:

On behalf of the Wildlife Conservation Society, I am pleased to submit this letter of support for the Park County Environmental Council (PCEC) *Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grant* application. The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) is a global non-profit conservation organization that was founded in 1895. I work in the North American Program of WCS and our mission is to *"save wildlife and wild places in North America by understanding critical issues, crafting science-based solutions, and taking conservation actions that benefit nature and humanity."* I understand PCEC is seeking funds to assist with an education and outreach program to take place in Park County.

I am aware that the public outreach programs and presentations will be designed to address all significant sources of NPS pollution with special emphasis on oil and gas extraction, best management practices in addition to the significance and viability of the oil and gas industry in Montana. Collaboration between several interested stakeholders will bring strength and expertise to the development and implementation of this project. Information from current and future baseline water quality sampling projects in the Shields Valley Watershed, collaboration with other concerned parties and agencies in the area, and participation by industry experts will also strengthen this project. WCS is committed to providing science-based information to the public to better inform public policy.

As an aquatic scientist and fisheries expert with a concerned interest in the Shields River watershed, I strongly support this project and pledge to contribute in-kind hours as a technical advisor toward this project. If you have any questions about my support of this project, please contact me at 406-223-3011.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Brad Shepard", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Brad Shepard, PhD
Senior Aquatic Scientist
Wildlife Conservation Society - Yellowstone Rockies Program
Affiliate Assistant Professor - Montana State University - Bozeman



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

1354 Highway 10 West, Livingston MT 59047

October 1, 2012

Mr. Robert Ray
Watershed Protection Section Supervisor
Department of Environmental Quality
1520 E. Sixth Avenue
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

Dear Mr. Ray:

I am submitting this letter of support for the *Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source* grant application being submitted by Park County Environmental Council (PCEC). I understand PCEC is seeking \$9,925 in funding to assist with an education and outreach program to take place in Park County.

As the area fisheries biologist for Fish, Wildlife & Parks, I am encouraged that outreach efforts will be presented to our community where issues with non-point source pollution have historically caused much damage to not only fisheries habitats but many other critical environments. I am aware that the public outreach programs and presentations will be designed to address all significant sources of NPS pollution with special emphasis on oil and gas extraction, best management practices in addition to the significance and viability of the oil and gas industry in Montana. Collaboration between several interested stakeholders will bring strength and expertise to the development and implementation of this project. Information from current and future baseline water quality sampling projects in the Shields Valley Watershed, collaboration with other concerned parties and agencies in the area, and participation by industry experts will also strengthen this project. Factual information is a very powerful tool and necessary for the public to make informed decisions addressing development.

If I can provide more information or answer any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Opitz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Scott" and last name "Opitz" clearly distinguishable.

Scott Opitz
Livingston Fisheries Biologist
406-222-5105
sopitz@mt.gov

Cc: Pat Flowers (FWP), Travis Horton (FWP), Karen Loveless (FWP), and File

September 21, 2012

Mr. Robert Ray, Watershed Protection Section Supervisor
Department of Environmental Quality
1520 E. Sixth Avenue
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

Dear Mr. Ray:

I am submitting this letter of support for the *Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source* grant application being submitted by Park County Environmental Council (PCEC). I understand PCEC is seeking \$9,925 in funding to assist with an education and outreach program to take place in Park County.

I am currently a middle school science teacher in Livingston School Districts 4 & 1. My classes have been studying and mapping water quality in Park County for the past five years. I am encouraged that outreach efforts will be presented to our community where issues with non-point source pollution have historically caused much damage to not only fisheries habitats but to many other critical environments. I am aware that the public outreach programs and presentations will be designed to address all significant sources of NPS pollution with special emphasis on oil and gas extraction, best management practices in addition to the significance and viability of the oil and gas industry in Montana. Collaboration between several interested stakeholders will bring strength and expertise to the development and implementation of this project. Information from current and future baseline water quality sampling projects in the Shields Valley Watershed, collaboration with other concerned parties and agencies in the area, and participation by industry experts will also strengthen this project.

Please look favorably upon PCECs grant application, as funding for this project will be extremely beneficial for public outreach and education. If I can provide more information or answer any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



David Pettit

dpettit@livingston.k12.mt.us

PROJECT FUNDING AWARD LETTER



Maki Foundation

421 AABC, Suite D • Aspen, Colorado 81611-3551
970.925.3272

September 12, 2012

Kerry Fee
Park County Environmental Council
PO Box 164
Livingston, MT 59047

Dear Kerry,

It is a pleasure to advise you that the Board of Directors of the Maki Foundation has approved a grant of \$3,000.00 in response to your request.

The purpose of this grant is to fund Working With Our Neighbors to Protect Shields Valley.

Sincerely,

Pat Humphry
for the Maki Foundation

Enclosure: Check for \$3,000.00