



Section 319 Grant - Project Proposal Form 7/25/13

FY2014 Project Proposals are due Friday July 26, 2013

Project Title Big Sky Watershed Corps Support

Project Sponsor Information

Name <u>Montana Watershed Coordination Council</u>	Tax Identification Number <u>46-1545855</u>
Address <u>1101 11th Street</u>	Website <u>www.mtwatersheds.org</u>
City <u>Helena</u> State <u>Montana</u>	Zip Code <u>59601</u> County <u>Lewis and Clark</u>
Primary Contact <u>Ann Schwend</u>	Signatory <u>Ann Schwend</u>
Title <u>BSWC Committee Chair</u>	Title <u>BSWC Committee Chair</u>
Phone Number <u>406-444-1806</u>	Phone Number <u>406-444-1806</u>
Fax Number <u>406-444-0533</u>	Fax Number <u>406-444-0533</u>
E-mail Address <u>bswc@mtwatersheds.org</u>	E-mail Address <u>bswc@mtwatersheds.org</u>
Signature _____	Signature _____

Project Funding

319 Funds Requested	\$55,500.00
Matching Funds	
State Match	
State In-Kind Match	
Local Match	\$50,000.00
Other Match	
Total Matching Funds	\$50,000.00
Other Federal Funds	\$170,148.00
Total Project Budget	\$275,648.00
Administrative Fee	\$5,500.00

Does the project sponsor have any open 319 contracts? Yes

Project Title Effective Watershed Communication

DEQ Contract Number 213027

319 Award \$9,000.00

Projected Closing Date June 2014

Project Title _____

DEQ Contract Number _____

319 Award _____

Projected Closing Date _____

Nonpoint Source (NPS) Information

Functional Category	Riparian Projects
1st Pollution Category	Hydromodification (Streambank or Shor
2nd Pollution Category	Agriculture (Irrigated Crop Production)
3rd Pollution Category	Urban Runoff/Stormwater (Municipal)
Waterbody Type	River/Stream

Project Location

Which WRP does this project implement?

What is the status of the WRP?

Does the project implement a TMDL?

Watershed Name or HUC # Multiple

(1) Waterbody Name from 2012 List of Impaired Waters
Multiple

(1) Probable Cause(s) of Impairment
Multiple

(2) Waterbody Name from 2012 List of Impaired Waters
Multiple

(2) Probable Cause(s) of Impairment

Activity 1 Name Implementation Activities

Latitude (1) _____ Longitude (1) _____

Activity 2 Name _____

Latitude (2) _____ Longitude (2) _____

Project Description

Methods: Please describe the specific activities of this project.

Develop a project to provide cost share support to place Big Sky Watershed Corps AmeriCorps (BSWC) members in 10 qualified watershed groups and conservation districts across Montana. Each professional BSWC member will live and work in their host site community for 10.5 months and provide professional organizational capacity to enable focused efforts for WRP project development, implementation and outreach to effectively and efficiently implement Water Quality Restoration and TMDL plan goals over the next 2 years.

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

The overall goal is to improve watershed health and protection through community based conservation. Big Sky Watershed Corps AmeriCorps members will work with targeted (DEQ accepted or pending WRPs) host site watershed organizations to focus on watershed restoration activities under 3 specific objectives: Watershed Health and Protection, Education and Outreach, and volunteer engagement. Members may be involved in project design, stream restoration, riparian plantings and revegetation, data collection, or coordinating and managing volunteer stream monitoring teams and community clean up events or other similar projects that help to implement a WRP.

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

As a headwaters state, Montana has a responsibility to maintain and protect our Nations water resources. We are water rich, people few and funding challenged. As we all work to improve water quality and the health of our watersheds, locally based organizations provide the first line of defense to assist with the identification, implementation and long term sustainability to meet our mutual goals of water quality protection. Montana has over 60 active watershed groups, many with less than one full time employee and virtually "no visible means of support", as well as 58 conservation districts scattered throughout the landscapes of Montana. Given the rural nature and distance between many of these locally based, financially strapped conservation groups, it is critical to have the infrastructure at the state level to provide the connections, capacity and professional development to support these community organizations. For 20 years, MWCC has provided the network and professional support to the critical front lines for watershed health and protection. In 2011, MWCC and the Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) collaborated with the Montana Conservation Corps to create the BSWC, a statewide direct service AmeriCorps program. Now in its second year, this very successful program is supported through a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service with the Montana Governor's office of Community Service and host site cost shares. Each selected host site is expected to provide a \$10,000 cash cost share toward programmatic support. In return, the host site gets a well educated, dedicated AmeriCorps member who will spend 10.5 months living and working within their host site community to improve watershed health and increase understanding and local engagement in water quality and natural resource issues. The enthusiastic BSWC members provide effective, necessary capacity to implement projects, provide direct, local education and outreach, and help develop water quality monitoring programs to meet the identified goals in watersheds with accepted Watershed Restoration and TMDL plans. Many of the worthy organizations simply do not have the resources to provide the \$10,000 cost share. This application seeks to provide a source of funds for MWCC to manage and distribute \$5,000 cost share match support to 10 qualified organizations.

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

The CNCS grant has very specific monthly reporting and monitoring requirements to measure the numbers and effectiveness of the members community work over the course of their service term. As of March 2013, BSWC members and trained volunteers have collected 3469 water quality data points at 44 locations across the state and provided watershed education and outreach to 2,355 beneficiaries for a total of 4400 hours of community education. Many of the sites have also developed SAP and QAPP documents to ensure high quality data collection and management to enable the data to be uploaded into state databases.

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

Education and outreach are key elements for the BSWC members and their host sites. The members target activities that lead to a better understanding of watershed health, engage the community members to participate and then often turn those activities into community events, or curriculum development for classrooms. Members can also work on outreach publications such as websites or frequent newsletters to highlight events, meetings or issues within their community.

Collaborative Effort: Please briefly describe project partners. Include other agencies, organizations and private citizens and their role in this project.

Partner	Role
MT Association of Conservation Districts	Program partner, representative association for state Conservation Districts
MT Conservation Corps	Program partner, CNCS grant administrator, member coordination

Scope of Work- Outline

Task 1 Title Host Site Cost Share Support

319 Funds	<input type="text" value="\$50,000.00"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text" value="\$50,000.00"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text" value="\$178,148.00"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text" value="\$278,148.00"/>
Timeline	<u>July 2014-July 2016</u>

Description
Provide \$5,000 cost share match dollars for up to 10 qualified watershed groups or conservation districts to support a BSWC member to develop projects to restore and improve impaired waters, to implement watershed protection activities for unimpaired waters, and to increase awareness and active engagement of community members to improve watershed conditions.

Task 2 Title Administration

319 Funds	<input type="text" value="\$5,500.00"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text" value="\$5,500.00"/>
Timeline	<u>July 2015-July 2016</u>

Description
Provide all aspects of project coordination, communication, fiscal administration and reporting requirements as needed for the grant management.

Task 3 Title _____

319 Funds	<input type="text"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text"/>
Timeline	_____

Description

Task 4 Title _____

319 Funds	<input type="text"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text"/>
Timeline	_____

Description

Task 5 Title _____

319 Funds	<input type="text"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text"/>
Timeline	_____

Description

Task 6 Title _____

319 Funds

Non-Federal Match

Other Federal Funds

Total Cost

Timeline _____

Description

Task 7 Title _____

319 Funds

Non-Federal Match

Other Federal Funds

Total Cost

Timeline _____

Description

Task 8 Title _____

319 Funds

Non-Federal Match

Other Federal Funds

Total Cost

Timeline _____

Description

Task 9 Title _____

319 Funds

Non-Federal Match

Other Federal Funds

Total Cost

Timeline _____

Description

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

This project would provide a known source of cost share funding for groups seeking to host a BSWC member. MWCC would serve as a central point of contact, with a single contract to manage, while also potentially leveraging additional funds from other agencies and foundations to contribute and help build the capacity of the underfunded watershed communities.

Watersheds with pending or accepted WRPs that could host a BSWC member include: Beaverhead, Big Hole, Lolo, Lower Clark Fork, Sun, Teton, Swan, Gallatin, Ninemile, Shields, Bitterroot, Blackfoot, Flathead Lake, Flint Creek, Jefferson and Lake Helena.