



# Section 319 Grant - Final Proposal Form

FY2014 Final Proposals are due Friday, October 4, 2013

## Section I: General Information

Project Title Bull River/Dry Creek Sediment Reduction and Riparian Re-vegetation Project

### Project Sponsor Information

Sponsor Name Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group

County Sanders

Website www.lcfwg.org

Tax Identification # 41-2136925

DUNS # 826538147

SAMs # 53F84

Primary Contact Sue Matthews

Signatory Joe DosSantos

Title Watershed Coordinator

Title Chair, LCFWG Board of Directors

Address P. O. Box 1329

Address P. O. Box 1469

City Trout Creek State Montana Zip Code 59874

City Noxon State Montana Zip Code 59853

Phone Number 406-626-1919

Phone Number 406-847-1284

Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number 406-847-2265

E-mail Address matthews@bigsky.net

E-mail Address Joe.Dossantos@avistacorp.com

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Project Location

Watershed Name or HUC # MT76N003\_040 / MT76N003\_180

TMDL Planning Area Lower Clark Fork

(1) Waterbody Name from 2012 List of Impaired Water Bull River

(1) Probable Cause(s) of Impairment Sedimentation/siltation

(2) Waterbody Name from 2012 List of Impaired Waters Dry Creek

(2) Probable Cause(s) of Impairment Sedimentation/siltation

(3) Waterbody Name from 2012 List of Impaired Waters \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Probable Cause(s) of Impairment \_\_\_\_\_

Activity 1 Name Bull River mainstem riparian re-vegetation

Latitude (1) 48.031419 N

Longitude (1) -115.846734 W

Activity 2 Name Dry Creek road sediment reduction

Latitude (2) 48.168838 N

Longitude (2) -115.917896 W

Activity 3 Name \_\_\_\_\_

Latitude (3) \_\_\_\_\_

Longitude (3) \_\_\_\_\_

### Nonpoint Source (NPS) Information

Which WRP does the project implement? Lower Clark Fork

What is the WRP status? DEQ-Accepted

Does the project implement recommendations in a TMDL? Yes

Waterbody Type River/Stream

Functional Category Sediment Control

1st Pollution Category Hydromodification (Removal of Riparian Vegetation)

Percent of Total (%) 70

2nd Pollution Category Silviculture (Road Construction/Maintenance)

Percent of Total (%) 30

3rd Pollution Category \_\_\_\_\_

Percent of Total (%) \_\_\_\_\_

4th Pollution Category \_\_\_\_\_

Percent of Total (%) \_\_\_\_\_



**A: Statement of Need and Intent**

This project is needed to improve water quality and restore beneficial uses (cold water life and cold water fishery) in the Bull River drainage. The project is important to water quality, our organization and local citizens because it addresses cause-and-effect issues related to two impaired waterbodies, Bull River and Dry Creek, which are public resources. We selected this project based on long-standing stakeholder interest and support in the Bull River watershed, which is one of the most important tributaries for native fish species --most notably bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout-- in the entire Lower Clark Fork River ecosystem.

Proposed project activities are intended to reduce sediment delivery and improve water quality in Bull River and Dry Creek by implementing site-specific BMP's. Dry Creek has a load reduction of 33% to meet an allocation of 387.5 tons/year. DEQ's assessment indicates that roads and sensitive land types are significant sources of sediment in Dry Creek. Our project implements recommended actions to plant road beds to stabilize slopes and decrease the risk of future mass wasting.

Bull River sediment loads quantified by DEQ are estimated at 12,832.6 tons/year; a 41% reduction in total sediment loading is needed to reach the target allocation of 7,259 tons/year. To meet this allocation, the TMDL calls for a sediment restoration approach that focuses on streamside riparian vegetation restoration and long-term riparian area management. Historic and current land uses have resulted in a vegetation shift along the mainstem of Bull River from native shrubs and trees to a dominance of non-native grasses including the highly competitive noxious weed, reed canary grass. By replanting and promoting the growth of native shrubs and trees, our project will improve stream bank stability, enhance the complexity of riparian communities, provide shade to the stream channel, filter sediments and inhibit the delivery of sediment to the river from overland flow.

This project is a high priority for LCFWG and our partners because it will result in a large, concerted effort that addresses the most significant source of nonpoint pollution and meets water quality objectives in Montana's 2012 NPS Management Plan/list of impaired waters and the Lower Clark Fork Tributaries TMDL. The project directly implements recommendations in the DEQ-approved Lower Clark Fork WRP and updated Bull River Watershed Restoration Prioritization Plan. The project also meets water quality and fish/wildlife habitat goals in the Kootenai National Forest's Forest Plan; is consistent with water quality and native fish improvement goals in Avista's Montana Tributary Habitat Acquisition and Fishery Enhancement Program, Wildlife Habitat Acquisition, Enhancement and Management Program and Lower Clark Fork Native Salmonid Restoration Plan; and meets FWP objectives in Montana's Statewide Fisheries Management Plan for restoring degraded habitat in the Bull River watershed.

**B: Collaborative Effort**

<b>Partner</b>	<b>Role</b>
Private landowners on mainstem Bull River	Landowners will provide access to sites along river for re-vegetation to occur and in-kind volunteer time.
Joe DosSantos and Nate Hall, Avista	Avista will provide technical assistance and cost share support for outreach, re-vegetation at Bull River and Dry Creek, and project coordination; and is also engaged in fisheries monitoring and fishery-related restoration projects in the Bull River watershed.
Kenny Breidinger and Ryan Kreiner, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks	FWP provide technical assistance, cost share and in-kind support. FWP staff will assist in vegetation site selection, any required permitting, habitat and fisheries monitoring, and on-the-ground work as requested.
Craig Neesvig and Doug Grupenhoff, U. S. Forest Service, Cabinet Ranger District	USFS will provide technical assistance and federal in-kind support for conducting roads analysis, NEPA planning/public scoping, effects analysis, endangered species consultation and field inspections on the Dry Creek project.
<u>NRCS??</u>	<u>Sue will add info on NRCS</u>

*Additional Information (Collaborative Effort)*

Since 2004, LCFWG has been participating in, and committed to, long-term collaborative efforts with Avista, FWP, Forest Service, NRCS, Green Mountain Conservation District, Bull River Watershed Council, seven other watershed councils, and numerous private landowners to restore the health and function of key tributaries in the Lower Clark Fork River system. Successful resource restoration and protection projects to date have focused on re-establishing quality tributary habitats by addressing the effects of sedimentation and channel instability on cold water fisheries and water quality. As partners in this collaborative effort, private landowners in the Bull River watershed and other tributary drainages have engaged in improving riparian habitats, conserving land, restoring stream segments and demonstrating project benefits to their neighbors.

## C: Project Planning and Management

Funding Organization	Award Amount	Project Description	Project Status	Contact Information
Montana DEQ	\$19,000.00	The East Fork Elk Creek Springer Bank Stabilization project stabilized an eroding stream bank and renovated a floodplain/riparian area to reduce sediment loads and improve water quality. LCFWG worked closely with landowners, contractors and NRCS to implement and monitor the results of this project. Total project budget was \$31,667.	To be completed in 2013.	Elena Evans Project Manager Montana DEQ 406-444-0531
Montana FWP Future Fisheries Program	\$20,000.00	The Graves Creek Restoration project addressed runoff and floodplain problems at 4 sites along Graves Creek to improve habitat for bull trout. LCFWG oversaw contractor work to repair an eroding terrace and install woody debris jams. Tasks also included landowner agreements and outreach. Total project budget was \$47,400.	Completed	Mark Lere Program Officer Montana FWP 406-444-2432
Sanders County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)	\$26,500.00	The East Fork Bull River Slide project repaired damage caused by a large landslide that had become a continual source of sediment. LCFWG worked with the Forest Service to establish a new channel, stabilize banks and improve in-stream habitat. Total project budget was \$65,500.	Completed	Doug Grupenhoff Project Partner US Forest Service Cabinet Ranger District 406-827-3533
Montana DEQ 604(b) Stimulus Funding	\$18,000.00	The Little Beaver Creek Planning project conducted a preliminary watershed assessment and assisted landowners with developing a Little Beaver Creek watershed management plan. LCFWG worked with landowners, contractors and Green Mountain Conservation District to implement this project. Total budget was \$18,000.	Completed	Rosie Sada Project Manager Montana DEQ 406-444-5964
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation	\$28,000.00	The Chapel Slide project stabilized a major landslide, the single largest contributor of sediment (over 700 tons/year) in the Vermilion River drainage. LCFWG coordinated with numerous funding partners to relocate the impaired river reach, improve grade control and create a new vegetated floodplain. Total project budget was \$216,000.	Completed	Joe DosSantos Avista Project Partner 406-847-1284

### Additional Information (Planning and Management)

The LCFWG has a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) that includes professional scientific staff from Montana DEQ, Avista, Kootenai and Lolo National Forests, Montana FWP and NRCS. Working closely with TAC members and local and national consultants who are experts in their field, we have planned, managed and conducted a variety of effective restoration activities in the Lower Clark Fork River system. We have created RFPs for work, hired and overseen contractors, and met timelines and reporting schedules required by state and federal governments, as well as local and national foundations. LCFWG hosted a statewide symposium to share information and on-the-ground techniques for accomplishing successful restoration, with particular focus on challenges to working in Lower Clark Fork River tributaries. We have worked effectively with local citizens and property owners across the Lower Clark Fork River area and our assistance is now highly regarded and sought by local property owners who want to resolve streamside issues on their land.

Of particular relevance to the proposed project, our LCFWG Watershed Coordinator has received professional awards for successful outreach and education programs related to natural resource issues. For 15 years, she has taught an outreach course for federal employees and other interested parties at the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Training Center. Additionally, working with a highly regarded expert in vegetative techniques, LCFWG has prepared a re-vegetation guide for this specific area of the Bull River, along with a re-vegetation guide for the Lower Clark Fork River basin.

### Section III: Project Components

#### **A: Education and Outreach: Please briefly describe the education and outreach component of this proposal, the target audience, and the method of delivery.**

An intensive outreach program will target landowners along the Bull River to participate in a collaborative re-vegetation effort to improve water quality of the Bull River by reducing sedimentation from unstable banks. Joint outreach efforts with the Bull River Watershed Council will include introductory workshops with riverfront landowners and one-on-one follow-up communication with landowners by project partners to garner participation in the project. A meeting was held by the Bull River Watershed Council on August 22, 2013 to inform its members that the LCFWG was applying for this grant. Twelve people attended and four property owners expressed a need to stabilize their river banks and are interested in participating in the proposed re-vegetation project.

Joint outreach efforts with the watershed council will also include a watershed-wide component that will involve creation of a speaker's bureau using previous collaborative landowner testimonials for conducting presentations at schools and at meetings of recreation groups and other local organizations (senior citizens, conservation groups) and local fairs /events; preparation and distribution of news articles and printed materials/meeting handouts; and installation of informational signage at re-vegetation sites, where appropriate.

Outreach success will be measured by landowner participation and agreements for re-vegetation work; attendance at workshops/meetings; general response to articles in the media; and a local public survey of awareness and support for improving water quality. Over time, success will be gauged by the number of landowners who become interested in participating in *future* re-vegetation efforts on their property.

#### **C: Operation and Maintenance**

The LCFWG Board of Directors is committed to this project as a top priority and the LCFWG Coordinator has been directed to arrange and be responsible for assisting the TAC with advertising and selecting the most qualified contractor(s), gaining DEQ approvals for contracts and scopes of work, developing landowner agreements, coordinating interaction and project monitoring by the TAC, arranging project inspections with DEQ/EPA staff, and completing reports to DEQ in a timely manner. On-the-ground operations and maintenance will be guided by the LCFWG Coordinator, TAC members and Bull River Watershed Council.

**Bull River re-vegetation work:** A pre-project assessment by the contractor will determine planting and fencing requirements and short- and long-term maintenance and monitoring objectives for each site. A landowner agreement will be developed for each site that will include provisions for on-going site maintenance beyond the grant period. Once riparian plants are well established (and large enough to be safe from browse), they will be self-maintaining and provide a natural, ecological process for protecting water quality. Inspection contact: Sue Matthews, 406-626-1919, 21413 Nine Mile Road, Huson, MT 59846.

**Dry Creek road sediment reduction work:** Practices to be employed will be designed, maintained and monitored by U S Forest Service staff; practice life spans will be based on experience with similar projects. The Cabinet Ranger District is committed to monitoring project success and long-term stability of the road bed treatments and road re-vegetation efforts. Once plants are successfully established, they will be self-maintaining and provide a natural, ecological process for reducing sediment delivery and protecting water quality. Site inspection contact: Doug Grupenhoff, 406-827-3533, USFS, 2693 Highway 200, Trout Creek, MT 59874.

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

A Sampling and Analysis Plan will be developed and submitted for approval to DEQ prior to project start-up. Monitoring of riparian re-vegetation sites will be conducted by the selected contractor per protocols established in the Bull River Vegetation Ecological Assessment, Watershed Consulting, 2006, and Re-vegetation Guide for Lower Clark Fork River Basin, Watershed Consulting, 2009. ([http://lcfwg.org/bullriver\\_project.htm](http://lcfwg.org/bullriver_project.htm).) Regular post-planting monitoring techniques will examine plant survival, vitality & function; re-planting will occur as necessary. Project effectiveness will be gauged by field observations to determine how well vegetation is providing stream bank strength and complexity affecting sediment load reduction, and shade to the stream. Often these long-term benefits cannot be judged for several years after plant establishment; however, based on experience with other re-vegetated sites in the Bull River watershed, regular monitoring (including watering and re-planting as needed) in the short-term is known to achieve long-term results. Continued long-term monitoring by Avista and FWP will provide indicators for sediment load. Long-term results will be captured by basin-wide Bull River fish population surveys funded by Avista and conducted every 6-7 years. A basin-wide fish population survey is scheduled for 2014 and will provide relevant fisheries data for this project. Other efforts funded by Avista in the Bull River watershed involve annual juvenile and adult bull trout transport, which will provide an on-going mechanism for tracking fish populations over time.

USFS staff has committed to monitoring the Dry Creek road project. Flow and temperature data will continue to be collected and evaluated for the long term using their automated logger located at Road Mile 2 (a previous USGS gauging site). Re-vegetated areas will be field monitored to assess plant survival and vitality. Effectiveness monitoring (to assess improved stability and reduction of sedimentation from road treatments) will utilize the Water Erosion Predictive Program (WEPP) modeling method, which is used to assess results on specific sites and roads.



## Section IV: Scope of Work

Task 1 Title Landowner outreach and engagement

Description

A Bull River Watershed public "Know Your Watershed" workshop will kick off the grant project in 2014; additional public workshops will take place during the grant period. A series of trips along the river will identify potential re-vegetation sites. The LCFWG Coordinator will use Sanders County land ownership maps and information from the Bull River Watershed Council to contact landowners with property bordering the river and meet with them one-on-one to garner participation in the riparian re-vegetation program and develop landowner agreements. A site tour will be held for landowners and project partners to review previous sites and re-vegetation methods. Outreach efforts will also include watershed-wide presentations at schools, fairs, other local events, meetings of local organizations, along with local media news articles, printed materials (brochures, calendar), and installation of informational signage at re-vegetation sites, where appropriate. The theme "Bring Back the Bull River" and logo will be included on all materials and presentations.

In September 2013, LCFWG confirmed participation of a landowner family in a 1.3-acre re-vegetation project on the Bull River; with work beginning in fall 2013, this site will serve as a demonstration to potential participants. Task 1 addresses a NPS pollution problem and the most significant source of NPS pollution in the watershed (sediment) by generating support for, and engaging landowners in, direct on-the-ground riparian re-vegetation work along the Bull River to reduce sediment loading and improve water quality.

Deliverables

- Signed landowner agreements signifying participation and maintenance requirements.
- A quarterly report on the project will include results of one-on-one landowner contacts, workshops and site tours, and a list of landowners along the Bull River who (1) were contacted and (2) are participating in the riparian re-vegetation program. Copies of printed materials, letters, news articles, etc., will be attached to the quarterly reports.
- A report on watershed-wide educational efforts and results, based on surveys, will be submitted. Surveys will be conducted before and after education programs to record awareness, behavior changes and support. Survey data will be posted on the LCFWG website.
- A short video will be prepared with participating landowners on support for the program.

Task 1 Funding

319 Funds	\$27,000.00
Non-Federal Match	\$22,500.00
Other Federal Funds	
Total Cost	\$49,500.00
Is Match Secured?	No

Timeline July 2014 through December 2016

Match Source Avista, Bull River Watershed Council, FWP, TAC, landowners

Task 2 Title Bull River Mainstem Riparian Re-vegetation

Description

LCFWG will advertise for and select a qualified re-vegetation contractor. Using maps and the updated Bull River Watershed Restoration Prioritization Plan, the contractor, LCFWG and TAC will prioritize riparian sites; as landowner participation is confirmed and agreements are signed, the contractor will complete pre-planting site assessments and a site-specific planting and maintenance plan that maximizes each site's potential for success. The contractor will be responsible for completing all permitting requirements. Based on well-documented riparian re-vegetation methods that have proven successful on Lower Clark Fork River tributaries, activities will include installation of heavy weed barrier fabric on reed canary grass, allowing at least one year for weeds to die and decompose; planting of appropriate shrubs and trees in phases (willow, alder, cottonwood and other native species appropriate for each site); and installation of fencing to protect plants from browse. Maintenance will include repairs to weed matting and watering of trees and shrubs for at least the first summer season after planting. Shrub and tree plantings will be monitored through a series of photo-points to visually assess the success of plant growth and vigor, measured annually by height, cover and rate of survival. Additional planting may be necessary to ensure each site's success. On-going monitoring will take place as described in Section III D.

Task 2 addresses a NPS pollution problem and the most significant source of NPS pollution in the watershed (sediment) by re-establishing native vegetation and functioning riparian areas along the Bull River to reduce sediment loading and improve water quality.

Deliverables

- DEQ-approved Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) for Bull River re-vegetation.
- A report detailing (1) the location of re-vegetation sites; (2) design, planting, maintenance and monitoring methods employed at sites; and (3) discussion of project results to date and any issues encountered.
- A report on monitoring results at grant project completion and on-going monitoring plans to be employed to determine long-term project effectiveness.

Task 2 Funding

319 Funds	\$163,000.00
Non-Federal Match	\$494,890.00
Other Federal Funds	
Total Cost	\$657,890.00
Is Match Secured?	No

Timeline July 2014 through June 2017

Match Source Avista, Bull River Watershed Council, FWP, TAC, landowners

Task 3 Title Dry Creek Road Sediment Reduction

Description

The USFS will plan and implement this task in cooperation with the LCFWG and TAC. Although Road 2291 has been out of use for nearly 20 years, the road prism consists of sensitive areas adjacent to draws and tributaries where a combination of tension cracks, undersized culverts, ponding, high precipitation and steep terrain is resulting in sedimentation and high risk of future hill slope mass wasting. Data collected in September 2013 indicates 11 sensitive areas (see attached map) that will be addressed by this task. Activities will include removal of 12 draws/crossings and 36 CMPs (ditch reliefs), repair of existing road bed failures, and seeding/planting of the road bed. When work is completed, Road 2291 will remain out of use and placed in storage. Task also includes project planning and design (roads analysis, NEPA planning/public scoping, effects analysis, endangered species consultation and field inspections); contract development; equipment time and materials; and monitoring by USFS. The proposed work is consistent with the Forest Plan by providing clean water for bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout, habitat security for grizzly bears and big game, and long-term vegetative management opportunities. This task addresses a NPS pollution problem and the most significant source of NPS pollution in the watershed (sediment) by repairing areas on steep slopes and sensitive soil types on 4.46 miles of a problem road bed. Expected outcomes include a reduction in fine sediment inputs from existing roads and crossings, a reduced risk of catastrophic failure of existing road segments, and an improvement in aquatic habitat conditions in Dry Creek and the Bull River.

Deliverables

--DEQ-approved Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) for Dry Creek.  
 --A report detailing (1) the treatments employed on Road 2291; (2) applicability of methods used to other roads in similar soil types and slopes; and (3) on-the-ground results at project completion.  
 --A report on monitoring results at grant project completion and on-going monitoring plans to be employed to determine long-term project effectiveness.

Task 3 Funding

319 Funds	\$80,000.00
Non-Federal Match	\$10,200.00
Other Federal Funds	\$23,375.00
Total Cost	\$113,575.00
Is Match Secured?	No

Timeline July 2014 through June 2017

Match Source Avista, FWP, TAC, USFS

Task 4 Title Project Administration

Description

The LCFWG Watershed Coordinator will work directly with individual landowners, project contractor(s), agencies and the TAC to coordinate and track project contracting; planning, design and field work updates; project budgets and timelines; and results of maintenance and monitoring activities. The Coordinator will review all invoices from contractor(s) and prepare status, annual and final reports to DEQ and other funders as required. The coordinator will work closely with the LCFWG bookkeeper (contracted through Green Mountain Conservation District) on project payables/receivables, preparation and submittal of reimbursement requests, budget and financial reporting, and tracking grant funds, matching funds and in-kind support. Contracted costs include coordinator's time, office supplies and travel; and bookkeeper's time and expenses related to use of Green Mountain Conservation District office equipment.

This task addresses a NPS pollution problem and the most significant source of NPS pollution in the watershed (sediment) by ensuring that the NPS grant project will be carried out effectively and will meet the goals of Montana's 319 grant program.

Deliverables

--Signed grant agreement and scope of work with DEQ.  
 --Signed contract with Green Mountain Conservation District for bookkeeping services.  
 --Signed contracts with Task 2 and 3 contractors.  
 --Submittal of reimbursement invoices to DEQ.  
 --Status, annual and final reports to DEQ that track expenditures and project activities.  
 --Reports as required by other funders.

Task 4 Funding

319 Funds	\$30,000.00
Non-Federal Match	\$12,500.00
Other Federal Funds	
Total Cost	\$42,500.00
Is Match Secured?	No

Timeline July 2014 through June 2017

Match Source Avista, TAC

Task 5 Title \_\_\_\_\_

Description

Deliverables

Task 5 Funding

319 Funds	<input type="text"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text"/>
Is Match Secured?	<input type="text"/>

Timeline \_\_\_\_\_ Match Source \_\_\_\_\_

Task 6 Title \_\_\_\_\_

Description

Deliverables

Task 6 Funding

319 Funds	<input type="text"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text"/>
Is Match Secured?	<input type="text"/>

Timeline \_\_\_\_\_ Match Source \_\_\_\_\_



Task 7 Title \_\_\_\_\_

Description

Deliverables

Task 7 Funding

319 Funds	<input type="text"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text"/>
Is Match Secured?	<input type="text"/>

Timeline \_\_\_\_\_ Match Source \_\_\_\_\_

Task 8 Title \_\_\_\_\_

Description

Deliverables

Task 8 Funding

319 Funds	<input type="text"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text"/>
Is Match Secured?	<input type="text"/>

Timeline \_\_\_\_\_ Match Source \_\_\_\_\_

Task 9 Title \_\_\_\_\_

Description

Deliverables

Task 9 Funding

319 Funds	<input type="text"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text"/>
Is Match Secured?	<input type="text"/>

Timeline \_\_\_\_\_ Match Source \_\_\_\_\_

Task 10 Title \_\_\_\_\_

Description

Deliverables

Task 10 Funding

319 Funds	<input type="text"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text"/>
Is Match Secured?	<input type="text"/>

Timeline \_\_\_\_\_ Match Source \_\_\_\_\_



**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.

Milestone	3QT 2014	4QT 2014	1QT 2015	2QT 2015	3QT 2015	4QT 2015	1QT 2016	2QT 2016	3QT 2016	4QT 2016	1QT 2017
Task 1. Outreach to landowners, acquiring agreements	<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"/>
Task 2. Riparian site assessments, plans, permits, SAP	<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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Task 2. Laying matting on reed canary grass, installing fencing, ordering native plants for delivery in 2016	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Task 2. Planting native shrubs, trees, watering, maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Task 2. Monitoring planting success	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Task 2. Coordinating with other on-going watershed monitoring (FWP and Avista)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Task 3. Dry Creek road NEPA, permits, project design, SAP	<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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Task 3. On-the-ground CMP removals, road bed repairs and planting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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 type="checkbox"/>
Task 3. Monitoring, sediment modeling, coordinating with other on-going watershed monitoring (FWP and Avista)	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Task 4. Administration: signed contract with DEQ, cooperators, USFS	<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"/>
Task 4. Quarterly and annual reports, approval/submittal of invoices, payments to contractors, final report and inspection.	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please ensure that you submit a **project map(s)** and **letters of support (at least 3)** 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: Draft of amended WRP**

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

Matching Funds: In Section IV, Scope of Work, all matching funds are shown as not yet secured. This is because we could only insert a "yes" or "no" response to the match amount total for each task. Therefore, it is important to note that while some match is still pending (such as state cash match and a portion of Avista cash match), we HAVE secured \$437,390 in project match from Avista for fish population tracking and monitoring in the Bull River.

Permits: A Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act 310 permit will be secured for the Bull River riparian re-vegetation work. The 310 application will be submitted to Green Mountain Conservation District following execution of a grant contract with DEQ. The USFS will be responsible for any requirements related to Dry Creek following completion of the NEPA process.

Time Frame: The three-year time frame is short for undertaking and completing such a comprehensive project; however, we have already taken some key steps to complete the project in the proposed timeline. For the Bull River riparian re-vegetation component, we have completed, and are currently undertaking, riparian re-vegetation efforts in the watershed to use as a model, and already have an understanding of the types of plants and methods that work well and have the best chance of success in the Bull River drainage. In August, we met with some river front property owners to discuss the benefits of healthy riparian areas and have already garnered interest from 4 landowners for participating in this project. Regarding the Dry Creek project, the USFS has undertaken field work to determine the extent of the problem and pinpoint the work that is needed and has begun project scheduling. (None of this pre-project work is part of the proposed project's match.)

September 26, 2013

Sue Matthews, Watershed Coordinator  
Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group  
P. O. Box 1329  
Trout Creek, Montana 59874

Dear Sue,

This letter confirms support from Avista for the 319 funding request being submitted by the Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group to Montana DEQ for the Bull River/Dry Creek Sediment Reduction and Riparian Re-vegetation Project.

Through our operating license for Cabinet Gorge and Noxon Rapids dams, Avista has committed long-term funding for aquatic and terrestrial habitat enhancements in the Lower Clark Fork River ecosystem. The Bull River watershed is, and will remain, a high priority for on-the-ground projects and fisheries monitoring for the remaining 34 years of our current license.

In this light, Avista will be providing cost share toward the proposed work at Bull River and Dry Creek. Some of this cost share is for related fisheries work and monitoring in the Bull River watershed that has already been approved through the Clark Fork Project ranking and approval process. Additional cost share is pending review and our Management Committee approval in March 2014. As a participant in the Lower Clark Fork Technical Advisory Committee, Avista will also provide technical assistance to the Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group throughout the course of this project.

Avista looks forward to furthering our work with the Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group and other project partners to implement the Bull River/Dry Creek project. We have found that a collaborative and cooperative approach to resource protection and enhancement, involving a wide variety of stakeholders and available resources, instills personal ownership and increases the likelihood of long-term success of a proposed project.

We hope that the Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group is successful in securing the 319 grant so that this important project can move forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Dos Santos", is written over a horizontal line.

Joe DosSantos, Clark Fork Aquatic  
Program Leader

September 26, 2013

Sue Matthews, Watershed Coordinator  
Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group  
P. O. Box 1329  
Trout Creek, Montana 59874

Dear Sue,

Please accept this letter of support from the Bull River Watershed Council for the Bull River/Dry Creek Riparian Re-vegetation and Sediment Reduction Project.

As you know, the Bull River Watershed Council has been supportive of involving local citizens in the restoration of watersheds in the lower Clark Fork basin for many years. Since the formation of the Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group, the Council has continued to partner with landowners and technical professionals to carry out successful restoration projects.

The Bull River Watershed Council is pleased to participate in the Bull River/Dry Creek project, especially since we have seen firsthand how streams can benefit from improved riparian areas. As you know, we have even conducted a public meeting for informing local residents and users of the Bull River of the LCFWG's desire to apply for funding restoration activities on private property. There was great interest from about 12 property owners in the Bull River as a result of this informative meeting. We look forward to working with the Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group on this project and hope that the 319 grant application to Montana DEQ is successful.

Sincerely,



Kathy Ferguson, Chair  
Bull River Watershed Council





**Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks**

Ryan Kreiner and Kenny Breidinger  
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks  
PO Box 148  
Thompson Falls, MT 59873  
406-827-9282

To whom it may concern:

Please consider this a letter of support from Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks (MTFWP) for the recent proposal for restoration work on the mainstem Bull River and Dry Creek sub-basin of the Bull River. The proposed project includes road system stabilization and revegetation in order to reduce or eliminate sediment sources identified in previous surveys. The Bull River watershed contains important spawning and rearing habitat for native salmonids, including bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout, and is a popular recreational fishery.

This project is consistent with several documents which guide MTFWP's management activities. The Statewide Fisheries Management Plan states the need to continue to restore degraded habitat identified in the Bull River Watershed Assessment. MTFWP is a signatory to the Clark Fork Settlement Agreement and Native Salmonid Restoration Plan. These plans are the result of multi-agency collaboration and serve as guiding documents for wildlife, fish, and land management in the Lower Clark Fork and Pend Oreille Watersheds. They both state as a goal the enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat.

In the opinion of MTFWP, the desired outcomes of the proposed project would be reduced sediment levels in the Bull River and thus, enhanced habitat for native salmonids. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Kreiner and Kenny Breidinger". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

Ryan Kreiner and Kenny Breidinger

**Montana Statewide Fisheries Management Plan-** <http://fwp.mt.gov/fishing/>

**Clark Fork Settlement Agreement-**  
<http://www.avistautilities.com/environment/clarkfork/Pages/license.aspx>

# Green Mountain Conservation District



P.O. Box 1329 • Trout Creek, MT 59874 • GMCD@blackfoot.net • (406) 827-4833 • website: greenmountaincd.org

September 25, 2013

Sue Matthews, Watershed Coordinator

**Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group**

P. O. Box 1329

Trout Creek, Montana 59874

Dear Sue,

Please accept this letter of support from Green Mountain Conservation District for the Bull River/Dry Creek Riparian Re-vegetation and Sediment Reduction Project.

As you know, GMCD has taken a proactive role in addressing water quality, stream habitat and riparian issues by involving local citizens in the restoration of watersheds in the lower Clark Fork basin. About 16 years ago, GMCD embarked on a non-regulatory, stakeholder-based watershed planning strategy that resulted in the formation of seven watershed councils, including the Bull River Watershed Council. In 2000, GMCD received the Montana Watershed Stewardship Award from the Montana Watershed Coordination Council for "being a catalyst for watershed councils; demonstrating the utility of a local stakeholder approach; and formulating effective strategies to identify and address local concerns." Since formation of the Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group, GMCD has continued to partner with landowners and technical professionals to carry out successful restoration projects. We believe that collaboration of efforts is leading to a coordinated river ecosystem approach and is strengthening our chances of meeting overall native fish and water quality restoration goals in the Clark Fork basin.

GMCD is pleased to participate in the Bull River/Dry Creek project, especially since we have seen firsthand how streams can benefit from improved riparian areas. For example, a recently-implemented riparian re-vegetation project on Tuscor Creek has drawn praise from downstream landowners who have already witnessed a dramatic improvement to sediment levels in the stream.

We look forward to working with the Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group on this project and hope that the 319 grant application to Montana DEQ is successful.

Sincerely,

Kent Wilby, Chair  
GMCD Board of Supervisor



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Kootenai National Forest  
Cabinet Ranger District  
406 827-3533

Cabinet Ranger Station  
2693 MT Highway 200  
Trout Creek, MT 59874-9503

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File Code: 2520

Date: September 20, 2013

Sue Matthews  
Coordinator  
Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group  
21413 Nine Mile Road  
Huson, MT 59846

Dear Sue

I would like to express my support and thanks for your initiative to improve watershed conditions in the Bull River drainage. The proposed Dry Creek sediment reduction and stabilization work will improve habitat for westslope cutthroat trout in Dry Creek and for the threatened bull trout in the Bull River mainstem. In concert with the proposed revegetation efforts on other lands in the area these projects will enhance habitat for native salmonids in one of the key spawning and rearing tributaries in the lower Clark Fork River.

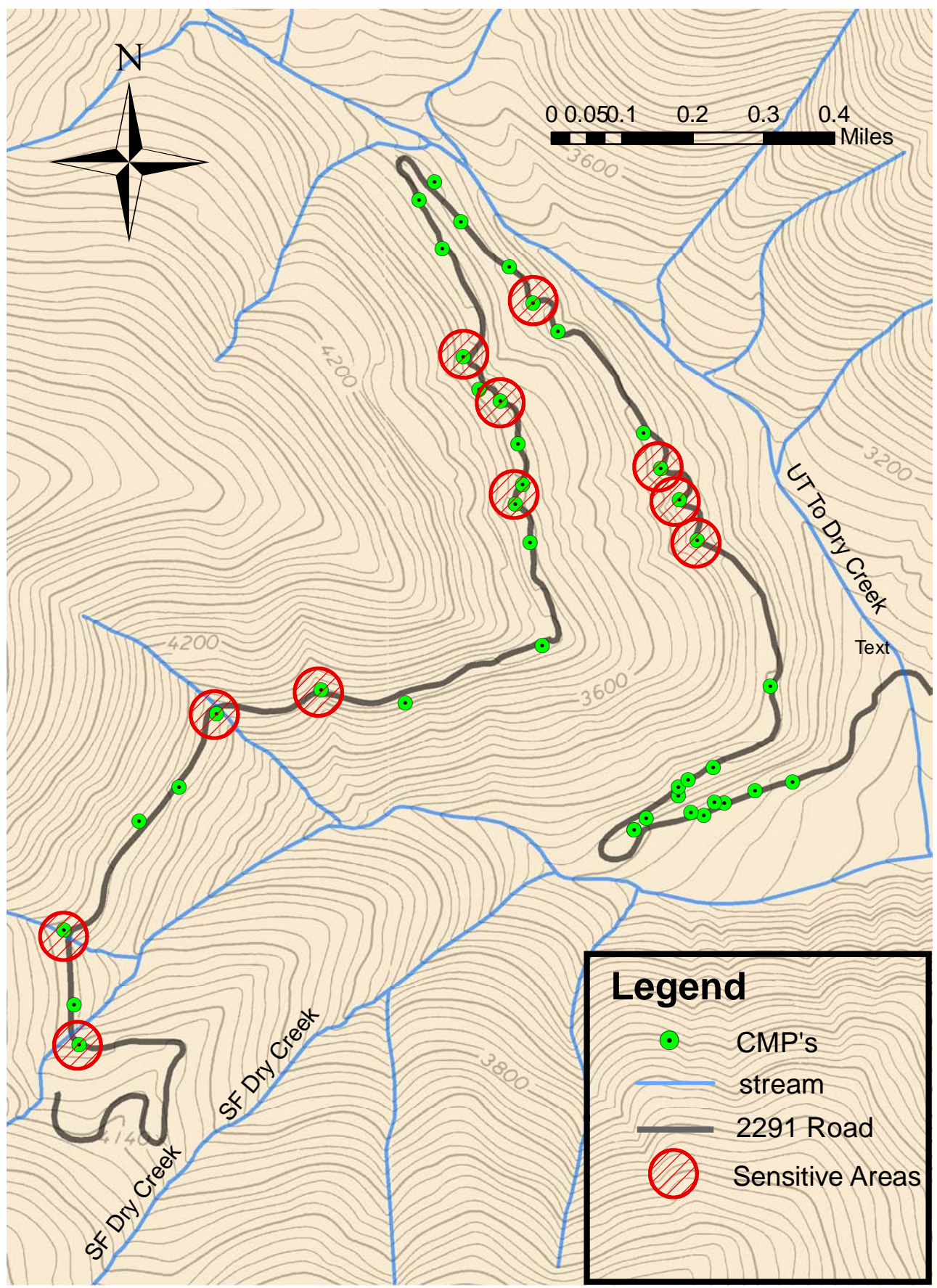
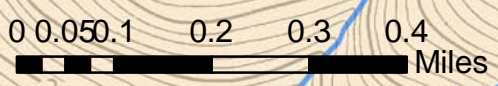
The Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group and the Cabinet Ranger District of the Kootenai National Forest have enjoyed a long and successful partnership in cooperation with other partners in the lower Clark Fork area. We look forward to continuing to build on past successes well into the future.

Sincerely,





JOHN GUBEL  
District Ranger



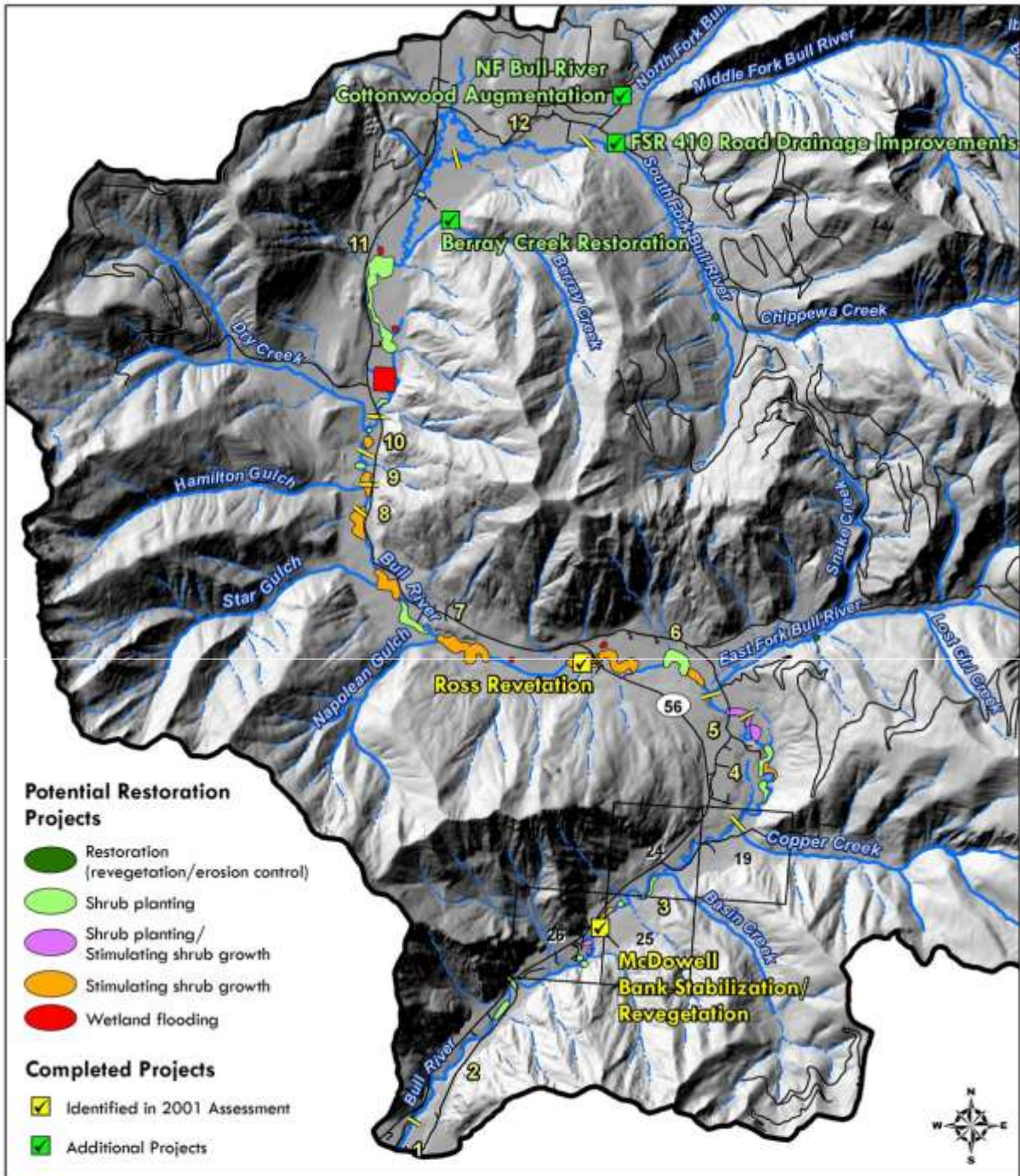




**Legend**

-  CMP's
-  stream
-  2291 Road
-  Sensitive Areas





**Bull River Watershed Restoration Prioritization Plan Update**  
 Mainstem Bull River Restoration Sites

