

October 4, 2013

Broadwater Conservation District 415 So. Front Townsend, MT 59644

Dear Supervisors:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks enthusiastically supports your grant proposal for Section 319 funds to improve the health of the Deep Creek Watershed. Several projects in the proposal have significant potential to improve water quality and fisheries values, and FWP will apply to the Futurre Fisheries Improvement Program to attempt to receive matching funds for your grant proposal.

Thank you for taking such a comprehensive view of the watershed, and for your efforts to build partnerships with landowners and State and Federal Agencies. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Fisheries Biologist

Board of Supervisors Broadwater County Conservation District Townsend, Montana

Members of the Board,

Watershed problems within the Deep Creek drainage area have been a major concern of many people in Broadwater County for a number of years. Erosion problems have been an on going concern for the last 100 years or more. 2011 exacerbated the problems that had been slowly but steadily impairing what should be a vibrant functional riparian habitat. The Deep Creek corridor has been targeted by numerous projects in the last twenty odd years to address various issues associated with different reaches of the stream within the watershed. Some of these projects had seen some success while others fell short of achieving any long term solutions. Part of those failures were due to segmentation of the corridor rather than looking at how the entire watershed functions. The Deep Creek Watershed Restoration Project is a concerted effort to look in depth at all aspects of the corridor and to subtlety help the stream return to a fully functioning riparian habitat.

The project brings a diverse group of people together to look at the socio-economic impacts of the project as well as the environmental aspects. Rural residents, whose homes sit in the flood plain, sit at the table with agricultural landowners whose lively hoods depend on stable, accessible water supplies. Federal and State engineers and biologists bring their expertise and resources to the table. Highly respected hydrologists have been documenting stream flow characteristics. Through this collaborative effort specific objectives have been incorporated into this grant proposal. Specific tasks have been delineated and a timeline for each task to be accomplished has been drawn. The funding that is being requested are dollars which will go directly to improving water quality, fisheries habitat, and riparian health. These improvements will enhance recreational opportunities within the corridor as well as open up an avenue to educate school students, and the general public on the benefits of total watershed management to improve stream health.

Please consider this letter as my vote of support for the Deep Creek Watershed Restoration grant proposal.

Thank you,

Chuck Hahn

Chuck Hahn

Dear Denise,

I am not sure who to address this letter of recommendation to for the Broadwater County Conservation District, Deep Creek Restoration Project 391. Therefore, I will take the liberty of addressing the recommendation to all the staff that worked on the Project 319 and say thank you for a great job of organizing this project into a workable plan.

I realize that the project, so far, is just tip of the iceberg, but a least we are on top of the iceberg.

I am assuming that the monies delegated for each task can be transferred to another task if money is left over in one task and needed elsewhere.

Thanks again for a job well done and my recommendation is to implement Project 319.

Sincerely,

Luane Halverore **DUANE HALVERSON**

Sam and Kim Antonick 726 Lower Deep Creek Road Townsend, MT 59644

October 2, 2013

Broadwater Conservation District Townsend, MT 59644

To Whom it Concerns:

We own a cattle and hay operation, which is located in the Deep Creek valley. We irrigate our alfalfa hay fields and pastures with water from this creek and realize the importance of maintaining or trying to improve the watershed health. Deep Creek is essential to our agricultural lively hood and we fully support the Deep Creek Watershed Restoration Project to help ensure this watershed continues to be productive and healthy.

The Deep Creek Watershed Restoration Project will provide several benefits to the stream flow, fish, wildlife, and the landowners that live along the creek. The landowners, state and federal agencies, and the local conservation district involved in this watershed work very well together and this will ensure a successful project.

Sincerely,

Sam and Kim Antonick

Sam & Kim Antoniek

Irrigation System Improvement - Antonick

Flood damage during the 2011 flood isolated the existing irrigation pump site. Significant stream channel modification would be needed to direct the channel back to the pump. Alternatively, the landowner and the grant sponsor proposes to move the pump location near existing infra-structure (a bridge). The additional cost of new mainline, moving the power source, and pump installation near the bridge is expected to be more dependable and less expensive than large-scale channel modification. In addition, the landowner will purchase two irrigation pivots to replace existing wheel lines.

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Costs:	Landowner	319	Total
Two used wheel lines	\$45,000	\$15,000	\$60,000
Pump Relocation and Mainline Installation	\$1,000	\$8,000	\$9,000
Total Cost	\$46,000	\$23,000	\$69,000

Irrigation Improvement Project - Antonick



Reach 7/8 Channel Restoration - Multiple Landowners

Significant flooding and gravel accumulation occurs in Reach 7 and 8 involving 3 landowners and one irrigation diversion. The dike directing water to the irrigation headgate failed during 2010 and 2011 flooding, and will likely fail in the future. Efforts to obtain irrigation water from an alternate location will eliminate the need to repair the dike. In addition, the shortened channel will allow improved bedload transport and reduce overland flooding.

Coordination with the 4 stakeholders is needed before final designs are prepared, but the conceptual channel change illustrated below is expected to resolve gravel accumulation and flooding issues without need for ongoing maintenance of the dike.

Costs:	Landowner	319	Total
Excavate 200 feet of New Channel	\$1000	\$6000	\$7,000
Excavate 300 feet of Existing Channel filled With Gravel Upstream	\$1000	\$6,000	\$7,000
Haul Gravel Off-site (2000 cy @ \$3/yd)		\$6000	\$6000
Total Cost	\$2000	\$18,000	\$20,000

Reach 7/8 Channel Restoration

