

## Section I: General Information

Project Title Impactful Nonpoint Source Restoration in Montana

### Project Sponsor Information

Sponsor Name Montana Watershed Coordination Council (MWCC)

County Lewis and Clark

Website www.mtwatersheds.org

Tax Identification # 46-1545855

DUNS # 07-880-5000

SAMs # 6YBV0

Primary Contact Kristin Sewak

Signatory Ann Schwend

Title Executive Director

Title Board of Directors

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Project Location

Watershed Name or HUC # Those with accepted WRP

TMDL Planning Area Those with accepted WRP

(1) Waterbody Name from 2014 List of Impaired Waters Impaired water bodies prioritized in WRP

(1) Probable Cause(s) of Impairment Any NPS cause of impairment

(2) Waterbody Name from 2014 List of Impaired Waters \_\_\_\_\_

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

(3) Waterbody Name from 2014 List of Impaired Waters \_\_\_\_\_

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

Activity 1 Name WRP Implementation Activities

Latitude (1) \_\_\_\_\_

Longitude (1) \_\_\_\_\_

Activity 2 Name \_\_\_\_\_

Latitude (2) \_\_\_\_\_

Longitude (2) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

### Nonpoint Source (NPS) Information

Which WRP does the project implement? Other

What is the WRP status? DEQ-Accepted

Does the project implement recommendations in a TMDL? Yes

Waterbody Type N/A

Functional Category Riparian Projects

1st Pollution Category Agriculture (Grazing Related Sources)

Percent of Total (%) 20

2nd Pollution Category Hydromodification (Removal of Riparian Vegetation)

Percent of Total (%) 20

3rd Pollution Category Hydromodification (Streambank or Shoreline Modification/Destabilization)

Percent of Total (%) 30

4th Pollution Category Hydromodification (Channel Erosion/Incision)

Percent of Total (%) 30

### Project Funding

319 Funds Requested	<input type="text" value="\$66,000.00"/>	Does the project sponsor have any open 319 contracts?	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>
Matching Funds		Project Title	<input type="text" value="Big Sky Watershed Corps Support"/>
State Cash Match	<input type="text"/>	DEQ Contract Number	<input type="text" value="214011"/>
Local Cash Match	<input type="text" value="\$22,000.00"/>	319 Award	<input type="text" value="\$55,500.00"/>
In-Kind Match	<input type="text" value="\$22,000.00"/>	Projected Closing Date	<input type="text" value="December 30, 2016"/>
Total Match	<input type="text" value="\$44,000.00"/>	Project Title	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>	DEQ Contract Number	<input type="text"/>
Total Project Budget	<input type="text" value="\$110,000.00"/>	319 Award	<input type="text"/>
Administrative Fee	<input type="text" value="\$6,000.00"/>	Projected Closing Date	<input type="text"/>

### Project Description

Methods: Please describe the specific activities of this project.

Project managers will implement a streamlined mini grants project to fund small to medium nonpoint source pollution (NPS) implementation projects within watersheds that have DEQ-accepted Watershed Restoration Plans (WRPs). The mini-grants will create a readily available funding source to enable quick development and implementation through a single DEQ contract that is competitively sub awarded to individual watershed groups. Groups with Big Sky Watershed AmeriCorps members will be encouraged to apply.

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

1. Significant, measurable remedies of 5-10 priority nonpoint source pollution problems within the 15 watersheds with DEQ-approved Watershed Restoration Plans (WRPs) through cash awards up to \$10,000. Awards will be made to groups who obtain DEQ approval of a WRP, by 1/31/15, for 1st round. Eligible projects must address NPS water quality problems for impaired streams and implement a WRP.
2. Measurable enhancements in Big Sky Watershed Corps outcomes by including 5-10 WRP qualified groups hosting a member.
3. Seeded by Cinnabar, MWCC's new program will empower watershed groups to easily and effectively quantify and communicate their impacts, including: Community benefit; environmental improvements; and economic impacts. All subawardees will pilot the program.

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

As a result of multiple conversations and surveys with Montana watershed groups, both through MWCC's capacity building program funded by BLM and through our involvement in the High Divide capacity project, watershed groups consistently cite a critical need: Funds for on-the-ground projects that are readily accessible (3-6 month turnaround), fairly awarded, with minimal match requirements. Frequently, in order to make progress on nonpoint source pollution problems and build community successs, groups need small to mid-sized sources of funding. Even a simple, small stream bank stabilization project can easily cost \$10,000 or more.

Eligible projects could include:

1. Riparian and wetland plantings
2. Stream bank stabilization, emphasizing soft techniques
3. Removal of stream bank invasive plants, coupled with native plantings
4. Riparian fencing and/or management
5. Rain garden, swale installation, or other passive stormwater treatments
7. Implementation of BMPs at a variety of sites, including farms, ranches, cities, and golf courses

Groups will be required to incorporate education and outreach in their projects, and additional E&O funds for the projects could be obtained from the Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)/DEQ mini grants program. Preference will be given to projects that are publicly accessible demonstrations and are led by Big Sky Watershed Corps members, when all other aspects are equal, but these will not be requirements of the program. MWCC will work with MACD to ensure that the two mini grant programs are not duplicative, but complementary. This project focuses primarily on specific, measurable on-the-ground improvements. Therefore, groups with both mini grants could significantly enhance on-the-ground and E&O outcomes. In addition, the project will require that grantees participate in piloting MWCC's program that helps groups quantify and communicate their projects' environmental, community and economic impacts.

### A: Statement of Need and Intent

Many times, with water quality work in Montana, specific opportunities to make improvements are presented, after much preparation and planning. For example, a watershed group writes a WRP and has identified a few high priority target areas. They make a breakthrough with a key stream side landowner who is now willing to fence his stream bank on a key stretch of river that is impaired due to sedimentation. By this point, the group has spent vast quantities of time identifying desired water quality enhancements locally through the development of their Watershed Restoration Plan (WRP) and in developing this key local partnership. They now have the partnership and a volunteer network to help implement this important project. Spring is coming, and they are ready to go, but there's one thing holding them back: A lack of near-term access to project funds. The group is nervous because this new partnership is fragile. Trust is still being built. They wonder if the project can wait until next year or will the landowner lose patience and interest if the work is delayed? These opportunities arise, but not always in concert with other "pieces of the puzzle" needed for a successful project.

Through this project, MWCC will work collaboratively with local watershed groups who are poised to restore landscapes and water quality, ensuring that the "puzzle pieces" are in place and they can realize project success. Specifically, we will provide access to near-term funding for priority, shovel-ready NPS restoration work to groups who have the other project pieces: An accepted WRP and the manpower to implement the project, such as through a volunteer network or deployment of a Big Sky Watershed Corps member. This will be accomplished by implementing a quarterly call for applications to this mini-grants project and subsequent award of up to \$10,000 of funds to qualified groups and projects. Beyond the nimble nature of this approach, the advantage of MWCC's management of this program extends to include the facilitation of partnerships and capacity building we provide to potential mini-grant recipients. For example, we partner with Montana Conservation Corps (MCC) and Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) to deploy 15-20 Big Sky Watershed Corps members per year, provide annual watershed trainings, and work one-on-one with groups to build their capacity. Also, through our existing 319 grant and BLM funding, MWCC is helping groups with WRPs and one other group (BLM-supported) to obtain cash match support for the placement of Big Sky Watershed Corps members at qualified host sites. MWCC has obtained and is seeking additional matching funds for this project so that the 319 match requirement is not a deterrent or limiting factor in on-the-ground success, which is a real challenge for some groups, especially smaller ones with limited resources. Through this project, MWCC is proactively helping groups put the puzzle pieces together to ensure project success, translating into significant, cumulative, near-term improvements in Montana's water quality and NPS pollution restoration in the form of 5-10 model projects per year. Also, groups will be empowered to quantify and communicate their projects' environmental, community and economic impacts through this project.

### B: Collaborative Effort

Partner	Role
Montana Department of Environmental Quality	Grants review committee/program advisory group, technical advisory partner (monitoring)
Cinnabar Foundation	Cash match of \$2,000/\$4,000 with MWCC's challenge requirement met.
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks; Association of Conservation Districts; and Department of Natural Resources & Conservation	Grants review committee/program advisory group
MT Water Quality Extension & MT Wetlands Council	Technical advisory partners - Assisting groups in monitoring for project effectiveness & with wetlands projects through trainings, guidance, and technical assistance.

#### Additional Information (Collaborative Effort)

For this project, MWCC has obtained written commitment from Cinnabar Foundation, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Montana Association of Conservation Districts, and Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation. As described in other parts of this application, Montana Watershed Coordination Council is highly successful with collaborative partnerships that produce results, such as through our Big Sky Watershed Corps partnership with Montana Association of Conservation Districts and Montana Conservation Corps.

**C: Project Planning and Management**

<b>Funding Organization</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Project Status</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Bureau of Land Management	\$125,000	The purpose is to provide underserved watershed communities with capacity building assistance. In year 1, MWCC provided 2 groups with assistance on topics such as fundraising, strategy, structure, and succession. In year 2, MWCC will provide 1 group with assistance, 1 group with Big Sky Watershed Corps cash match, and implement the fall 2015 Montana Watershed Symposium.	Currently completing 1st year of 5; Successfully completed 1 previous year of \$10,000 agreement	Mike Philbin (406) 896-5041 mphilbin@blm.gov
DEQ 319 Contract #: 213027	\$9,000	To provide accessible NPS and other water quality information throughout Montana through MWCC's website, Watershed News e-newsletter, and social media avenues.	Successfully completed project with end date of June 30, 2014	Robert Ray (406) 444-5319 rray@mt.gov
DEQ 319 Contract #: 214011	\$55,500	The purpose is to provide watershed groups (with approved WRPs and 2015 or 2016 Big Sky Watershed Corps Members) with up to \$5,000 to cover up to half of the site's \$10,000 cash match requirement to host a Member.	Recently initiated project; Cash match application is under development	Robert Ray (406) 444-5319 rray@mt.gov

*Additional Information (Planning and Management)*

In addition to the government grants or contracts listed above, MWCC has recently secured a \$2,000 1:1 challenge grant from Cinnabar Foundation to develop and share the means by which watershed groups can easily and effectively quantify and communicate their impacts, including: Community benefit; Environmental improvements; and Economic impacts. MWCC is currently recruiting in-kind partners for the project, including Headwaters Economics, and collecting information and strategies for an impacts workbook to be used by participating groups. Contact: Steve Thompson, Executive Director: (406) 250-9810 & [steve@cinnabarfoundation.org](mailto:steve@cinnabarfoundation.org).

In addition to the listings above, MWCC Executive Director has successfully obtained and managed the following government funds:

1. USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS): 6 cooperative agreements totaling over \$1.1 million
2. USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS): 4 grants/agreements totaling \$164,000
3. Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR): 4 grants totaling \$269,785
4. Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP): 3 grants totaling \$76,000.

The above projects included a wide range of activities and deliverables, such as: Landowner trainings, invasive plant removal, native plantings, community watershed planning, educational curricula, school field trips, and outdoor classrooms.

### 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.**

Grantees will be required to include a creative education and outreach strategy for their projects, one that not only communicates outcomes in smart quantitative ways, such as through the use of infographics, but also tells the inspiring story of the project and people involved. The audience focus will be the home watershed and the larger statewide watershed community. Grantees will be required to widely share project stories with partners and the larger Montana watershed community. Project organizers will assist participants with education and outreach, streamlining the statewide process for groups, specifically by developing an online reporting tool that collects measurable and inspiring project information for inclusion in a variety of education and outreach mechanisms. Participants will be required to develop and include the following elements: A short and compelling project story, answers to specific project questions (such as information on the potential for public access to the site), testimonials, pictures, infographics, video clips, websites, social media information, and contacts. Project managers will transfer (or, in some cases, require the groups to transfer) these components onto education and outreach forums including the Montana Conservation Month website, Cinnabar Foundation's Conserve Montana website, the Big Sky Watershed Corps website (if applicable), and state agency pages. In addition, organizers will provide groups with templates and tools for local outreach, such as press releases, tour event ideas, demonstration tactics, and more.

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

Within this project, two levels of operation and maintenance exist: O&M of the larger project and O&M of the grantee managed projects. O&M:

1. To ensure project success, managers will work collaboratively with partners. For instance, MWCC will consult with MT DEQ 319 personnel to develop the mini-grant project application and reporting mechanisms so that the mini grant process is streamlined for grantees but still includes the level of detail and reporting required by the 319 program.
2. Selection criteria will include all 319 requirements, plus the project's potential to also meet Big Sky Watershed Corps goals.
3. Streamlined tactics will focus primarily on the logistical elements of projects, rather than the quality or content required by 319, such as development of online tools and templates for groups to use throughout the project. Examples include an education and outreach/ and project reporting form.
4. Provide timely responsiveness to immediate on-the-ground restoration needs, the mini grant application process will repeat quarterly until all funds are awarded, starting in winter 2015 and extending as late as April 2016, comprising up to 5 mini grant rounds.
5. Input on the effectiveness, ease of use, and other aspects of the project will be collected from grantees.
6. Abbreviated sub-contracts will be established with grantees to ensure accountability, with the encompassing MWCC/DEQ contract terms included or referenced, within an Appendix, as in full effect within the sub-contract.

Implementation Projects O&M:

Grantees must have plans for project O&M that meet the requirements of MT DEQ's NPS project O&M. Grantees must also demonstrate the capacity to implement the project from start to finish, such as how they will finish the work if their manpower decreases.

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

Project Monitoring:

Project managers will collect project results through streamlined monitoring, impacts reporting, and surveys of participants. For specific on-the-ground environmental impacts, managers will use DEQ's project evaluation criteria and manual for reporting such impacts. For community and economic impacts, managers will use MWCC's developing workbook, which will collect specific information from the group, compelling community stories, project infographics, and local economic data related to watershed enhancements. Input on the project will be solicited from participants. All data will be compiled and used to demonstrate project effectiveness and make recommendations for continuation of and adjustments to this project, both for future mini-grant rounds within this contract and potential future contract years, if applicable.

Implementation Projects Monitoring:

A requirement of the grants project, awardees will collect the appropriate baseline data and then monitor project effectiveness, with technical assistance from MT DEQ and MT Water Quality Extension. Participants will be required to report their project effectiveness quarterly and within final reports that will be due prior to the final report for this program, both in terms of quantitative (water quality & economic impacts, if possible) and qualitative impacts, the inspiring stories of the projects. For example, infographics and other tools will be used for wide audience understanding of successful NPS project impacts.

## Section IV: Scope of Work

Task 1 Title Project Development & Management

### Description

Delivery of project will include development and management of project grants, as well as communication, outreach and monitoring. MWCC will serve as the point of contact, with a single contract for DEQ to manage. Grants will be advertised and awarded competitively through a review committee made up of MWCC and DEQ, plus other partners, such as DNRC, FWP & MACD. From early 2015 through spring 2016, quarterly grant rounds will be advertised, and grants will be awarded on a competitive basis following DEQ 319 ranking criteria and the purposes of this project, including: 1. Matching grant awards to qualified host sites with Big Sky Watershed Corps; 2. Forums for grantees to use, streamlining reporting; 3. Exposure through avenues such as Conserve Montana, 4. Demonstrated success through MWCC's pilot environmental, community and economic impacts project. The grant selection committee will organize the grant application process, which will consist of a streamlined online form that collects all necessary information, but also does not require much time to complete. Each grant round will be open for a minimum of 1 month, with selection occurring within the first few weeks of the following month, and contract signing within the next few weeks; comprising 2-3 months from announcement to project start date.

### Deliverables

- a. Development and management of a model mini-grant project that efficiently produces demonstrable, near-term improvements in Montana's water quality and NPS pollution restoration in the form of 5-10 outstanding model projects per year, for which a description, evaluation and recommendations report will be developed.
- b. All of the tools and means by which to continue the project in future years if partners desire and enough interest continues.

### Task 1 Funding

319 Funds	<input type="text" value="\$5,000.00"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text" value="\$2,220.00"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text" value="\$7,220.00"/>
Is Match Secured?	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>

Timeline January 2015 - June 2017

Match Source Cinnabar Foundation & In-kind Partners

Task 2 Title Project Awards & Implementation

### Description

Project managers and partners will award grants, and require implementation, monitoring and reporting by participants. MWCC will work to streamline the applicant grant process, while retaining the quality impacts and reporting required of DEQ funds. MWCC will leverage additional funds from other agencies, with a goal of reducing participant cash match to 30%, preferably less, while retaining the overall 40% or greater match to DEQ 319. Participants will be required to work with MWCC to quantify the economic impacts of their work and effectively communicate results quantitatively and qualitatively, plus work with MSU Extension on monitoring that is needed beyond their project effectiveness modeling and other acceptable techniques outlines within DEQ 319's guidelines.

### Deliverables

- a. Demonstrable, significant, measurable remedies of 5-10 priority NPS problems within the 15+ watersheds with DEQ approved Watershed Restoration Plans (WRPs) through cash awards of up to \$10,000. Eligible projects will have an impact on water quality for 303d listed and impaired streams.
- b. Measurable enhancements in Big Sky Watershed Corps program outcomes through participation by groups hosting a member, equaling 5 to 10 members' impacts (8-10 Members are to be housed at locations with approved or soon to be approved WRPs in 2015, which is about half of all Members).
- c. Widespread knowledge of projects' environmental and economic results by communication of impacts in high profile locations throughout Montana and beyond.

### Task 2 Funding

319 Funds	<input type="text" value="\$55,000.00"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text" value="\$41,780.00"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text" value="\$96,780.00"/>
Is Match Secured?	<input type="text" value="No"/>

Timeline April 2015 - July 2017

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



Description

Fiscal administration and reporting to include quarterly status reports with match statements and requests for reimbursements, annual reports, and the final report.

Deliverables

Production of all DEQ 319 required progress, annual, and final reports.

Task 3 Funding

319 Funds	<input type="text" value="\$6,000.00"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text" value="\$6,000.00"/>
Is Match Secured?	<input type="text"/>

Description

Deliverables

Task 4 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"/>

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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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 \_\_\_\_\_

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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 \_\_\_\_\_

## Section V: Supporting Documents

## A: Detailed Project Budget

A. Detailed Project Budget						
Task Number and Specific Action	319 Funds	State Cash Match	Local Cash Match	In-Kind Match	Federal Funds	Total Costs
1 - Develop program with advisors/review committee	\$4,500		\$2,000	\$220		\$6,720
1 - Announce opportunity	\$500					\$500
2 - Award grants	\$1,000					\$1,000
2 - Implement 5-10 projects	\$50,000		\$20,000	\$21,780		\$91,780
2 - Track, monitor, evaluate & adjust programs/projects	\$3,000					\$3,000
2 - Communicate program & projects' success	\$1,000					\$1,000
3 - Administer grant through bookkeeping & reporting	\$6,000					\$6,000

**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	Spring 2015	Summer 2015	Fall 2015	Winter 2016	Spring 2016	Summer 2016	Fall 2016	Winter 2017	Spring 2017	Summer 2017	Fall 2017
1: Project development, including application, advisory committee set-up, call for applications, outreach	<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"/>
2: Project awards & implementation, including mini-grant review & selection, projects implementation and reporting, Round 1	<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"/>
1: Project development: Call for applications & outreach, Round 2	<input 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"/>
2: Project awards & implementation, including mini-grant review & selection, projects implementation and reporting, Round 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1: Project development: Call for applications & outreach, Round 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
2: Project awards & implementation, including mini-grant review & selection, projects implementation and reporting, Round 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1: Project development: Call for applications & outreach, Round 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2: Project awards & implementation, including mini-grant review & selection, projects implementation and reporting, Round 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1: Project development: Call for applications & outreach, Round 5	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2: Project awards & implementation, including mini-grant review & selection, projects implementation and reporting, Round 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3: Project administration, including bookkeeping & quarterly/final progress report submittals	<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 (if applicable)**

☐ **H: Photos**

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

Mini grants will only be awarded in areas with accepted WRPs, as found at:

<http://montananps319grants.pbworks.com/w/page/40496302/Watershed%20Restoration%20Plans>.

The focus of the grants will be measurable and communicated improvements in water quality within 5-10 impaired waters that have a DEQ-approved WRP, using the DEQ 319's selection criteria, such as "making progress towards the removal of a pollutant/waterbody combination from Montana's 2014 Impaired Waters list:"

file:///C:/Users/Montana%20Water/Downloads/FY15ProjectProposalCombo%20(1).pdf

AND, these program goals:

-Fulfillment of Big Sky Watershed Corps objectives: Watershed protection and restoration; Volunteer engagement; Education and outreach; and Member professional development. For 2015, 8-10 Big Sky Members are working at host sites with approved WRPs.  
 -Piloting and finalization of MWCC's program to help groups easily and effectively quantify and communicate their environmental, community and economic impacts, by their required participation in program through their 319 NPS projects.



# Section 319 Grant - Final Proposal Form

FY2015 Final Proposals are due Monday, September 29, 2014

## Section I: General Information

Project Title Impactful Nonpoint Source Restoration in Montana

### Project Sponsor Information

Sponsor Name Montana Watershed Coordination Council (MWCC)

County Lewis and Clark

Website www.mtwatersheds.org

Tax Identification # 46-1545855

DUNS # 07-880-S000

SAMs # 6YBV0

Primary Contact Kristin Sewak

Signatory Ann Schwend

Title Executive Director

Title Board of Directors

Address 1101 11th Avenue

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City Helena State Montana Zip Code 59601

City Helena State Montana Zip Code 59601

Phone Number 406-475-1420

Phone Number 406-444-1806

Fax Number NA

Fax Number NA

E-mail Address kristin@mtwatersheds.org

E-mail Address aschwend@mt.gov

Signature Kristin D Sewak

Signature Ann Schwend

### Project Location

Watershed Name or HUC # Those with accepted WRP

TMDL Planning Area Those with accepted WRP

(1) Waterbody Name from 2014 List of Impaired Waters Impaired water bodies prioritized in WRP

(1) Probable Cause(s) of Impairment Any NPS cause of impairment

(2) Waterbody Name from 2014 List of Impaired Waters \_\_\_\_\_

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

(3) Waterbody Name from 2014 List of Impaired Waters \_\_\_\_\_

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

Activity 1 Name WRP Implementation Activities

Latitude (1) \_\_\_\_\_

Longitude (1) \_\_\_\_\_

Activity 2 Name \_\_\_\_\_

Latitude (2) \_\_\_\_\_

Longitude (2) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

### Nonpoint Source (NPS) Information

Which WRP does the project implement? Other

What is the WRP status? DEQ-Accepted

Does the project implement recommendations in a TMDL? Yes

Waterbody Type N/A

Functional Category Riparian Projects

1st Pollution Category Agriculture (Grazing Related Sources)

Percent of Total (%) 20

2nd Pollution Category Hydromodification (Removal of Riparian Vegetation)

Percent of Total (%) 20

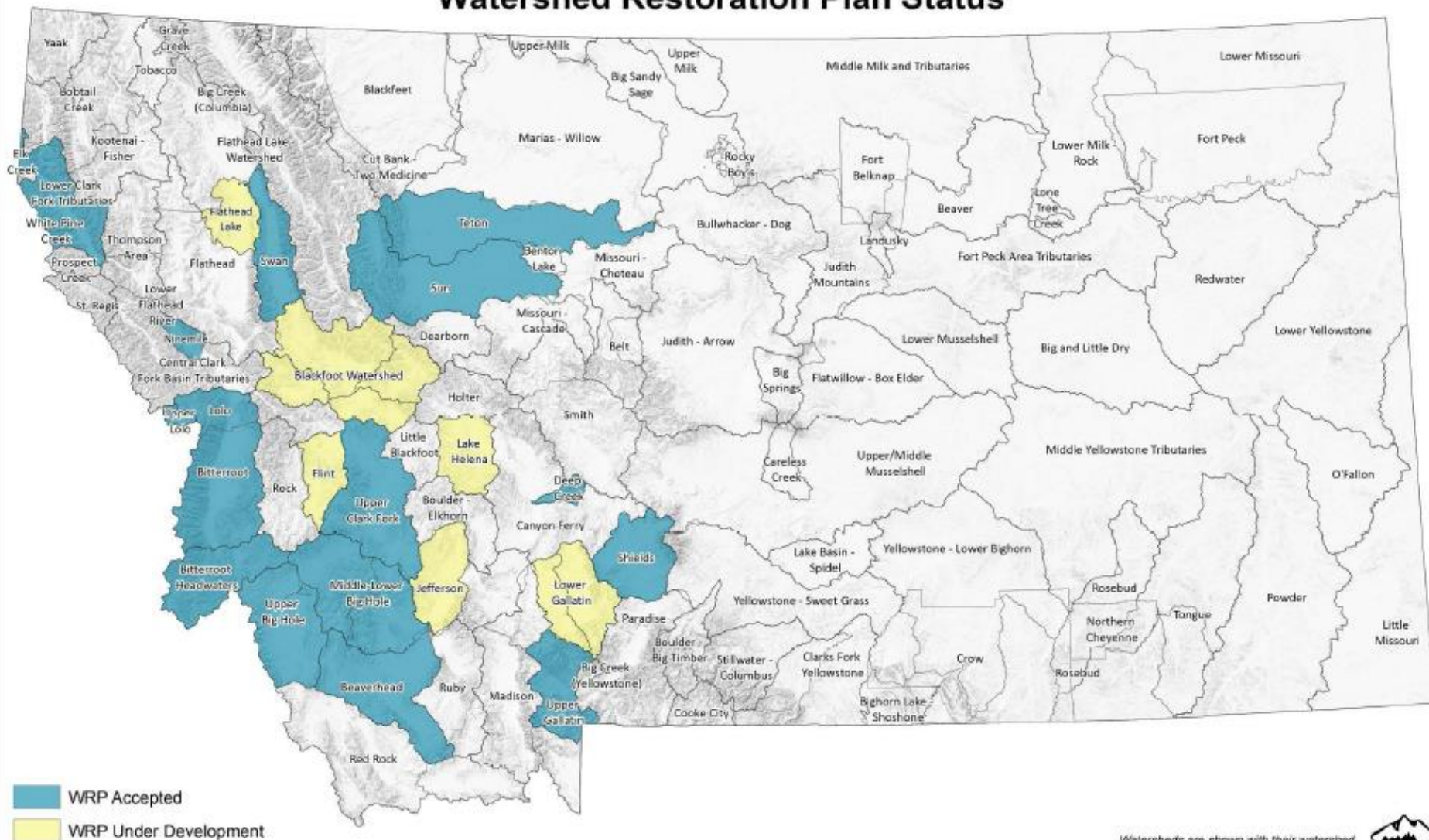
3rd Pollution Category Hydromodification (Streambank or Shoreline Modification/Destabilization)

Percent of Total (%) 30

4th Pollution Category Hydromodification (Channel Erosion/Incision)

Percent of Total (%) 30

## Watershed Restoration Plan Status



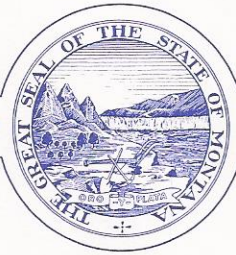
Watersheds are shown with their watershed restoration planning status.

DESPANWGPB - December 2013  
# LOCAL AND NATIONAL TELE - 5-000000 - Case # 47263413 rev01





DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND CONSERVATION



STEVE BULLOCK, GOVERNOR

1625 ELEVENTH AVENUE

STATE OF MONTANA

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE: (406) 444-2074  
FAX: (406) 444-2684

PO BOX 201601  
HELENA, MT 59620-1601

Montana Watershed Coordination Council  
1101 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Helena, MT 59601

**Re: Impactful Nonpoint Source Restoration in Montana Program: mini-grants review committee**

Dear Kristin,

Thank you for the invitation to participate on the mini-grant review committee for your Impactful Nonpoint Source Restoration program. I would be happy to contribute 5-20 hours over the course of 1.5 years to assist you with your grant reviews or any other necessary function of the program.

I am excited about your future grant awards and partnering with MWCC on this program.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lindsay Volpe".

Lindsay Volpe  
Grant Manager  
MT DNRC  
RRGL Program



DIRECTOR'S  
OFFICE  
(406) 444-2074

CONSERVATION & RESOURCE  
DIVISION  
(406) 444-6667

RESERVED WATER RIGHTS  
COMPACT COMMISSION  
(406) 444-6841

OIL & GAS  
DIVISION  
(406) 444-6675

TRUST LAND MANAGEMENT  
DIVISION  
(406) 444-2074





**1101 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Helena, Montana 59601**

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**Phone: 406-443-5711**

**Email: [mail@macdnet.org](mailto:mail@macdnet.org)**

**Fax: 406-443-0174**

**Website: [www.macdnet.org](http://www.macdnet.org)**

DEQ 319 Grants Review Committee,

The Montana Association of Conservation Districts is supportive of nonpoint source projects directed toward keeping our rivers and lakes swimmable and fishable. Our program manager is willing to dedicate the amount of time needed to sit on this committee and provide a review of applications.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elena Evans".

Executive Director  
Montana Association of Conservation Districts  
1101 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Helena, MT 59601

Date: Thu, Jul 24, 2014 at 2:41 PM

Subject: RE: Request for small partnership with MWCC & NW Projects Tour

To: Kristin Sewak <[kristin@mtwatersheds.org](mailto:kristin@mtwatersheds.org)>

I would be more than happy to.

Beau

On Thu, Jul 24, 2014 at 11:15 AM, Kristin Sewak <[kristin@mtwatersheds.org](mailto:kristin@mtwatersheds.org)> wrote:  
Hi Beau,

Would you or someone from FWP be willing to represent FWP on a small to mid-sized grant review committee for MWCC? It would only require a minimal amount of time. Right now, I'm estimating 5-10 hours in a short timeframe about a year from now. On Monday, I'm requesting 319 funds from DEQ to develop the program, which would award \$5-\$10,000 to 6-12 watershed groups or CDs with a Watershed Restoration Plan to implement one priority on-the-ground nonpoint source project of significant impact.

If you're willing to participate, what is your hourly rate, for the purposes of the proposal?

Thanks,  
Kristin

Kristin Sewak  
Executive Director  
Montana Watershed Coordination Council  
1101 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Helena, MT 59601  
Office: [\(406\) 219-8555](tel:(406)219-8555)  
Mobile: [\(814\) 341-5136](tel:(814)341-5136)



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Executive Director  
Heather Mullee

AmeriCorps Member  
Katie Vennie

Bookkeeper  
Jenny West

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Christy Greef,  
Secretary  
Chris Clancy  
Alli Neils Lemoine  
Eddie Olwell  
Al Pernichele  
Cynthia Rademacher  
Ed Snook

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

September 9, 2014

Dear Robert,

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of the Montana Watershed Coordination Council's proposal, Impactful Nonpoint Source Restoration in Montana

When the opportunity for a project arises, you want to be able to take quick action. Oftentimes that's the only way to keep parties interested in the work and ensure that a good restoration project will get on the ground. Unfortunately, many funding sources have long processes for awarding funds that can ultimately stall project momentum. The opportunity to get funds through an expedited process with MWCC will go a long way towards building trust with landowners and getting restoration projects on the ground in a timely manner.

With an accepted Watershed Restoration Plan in place and a Big Sky Watershed Corps Member arriving in January to focus on driving that plan forward through project implementation, we are incredibly excited about the opportunity to work with MWCC to advance our efforts.

In conclusion, we fully support the efforts of the Montana Watershed Coordination Council to provide much needed NPS restoration dollars to groups throughout the state of Montana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Heather Mullee". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Heather Mullee  
Executive Director



## GREATER GALLATIN WATERSHED COUNCIL

P.O. Box 751, Bozeman, MT 59771

(406) 551-0804

[info@greatergallatin.org](mailto:info@greatergallatin.org)

<http://greatergallatin.org>

September 15, 2014

Kristin Sewak  
Executive Director  
Montana Watershed Coordination Council  
1101 11th Avenue  
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Ms. Sewak:

I am writing on behalf of the Greater Gallatin Watershed Council (GGWC) in support of the Montana Watershed Coordination Council's proposal for 319 funding for Impactful Nonpoint Source Restoration in Montana.

We believe this program will be a wonderful benefit to watershed groups across the state including GGWC. This proposal is a strong compliment to the 319 grant program because it allows for immediate funding for smaller-scale restoration activities. Since GGWC began working on our Watershed Restoration Plan this winter, we've received several calls from landowners interested in restoration projects on their properties. It would be exciting to be able to offer this funding opportunity through MWCC to landowners who want to begin a project immediately.

The Greater Gallatin Watershed Council fully supports the 319 grant proposal of the Montana Watershed Coordination Council for Impactful Nonpoint Source Restoration in Montana.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support of this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sierra Harris", written in a cursive style.

Sierra Harris  
Watershed Coordinator  
Greater Gallatin Watershed Council



*"Better Rural Communities through Cooperative Conservation"*

September 19, 2014

Kristin Sewak  
Executive Director  
Montana Watershed Coordination Council  
1101 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Kristin,

The Blackfoot Challenge supports the process leading to the proposed program "Impactful Nonpoint Source Restoration in Montana." We are working to respond to nonpoint source conditions identified in the Blackfoot Watershed TMDL documents, and this program will support that effort.

The Blackfoot Challenge is a nonprofit watershed organization whose mission is to coordinate efforts that conserve and enhance the natural resources and rural way of life throughout the Blackfoot Watershed, 1.5-million acres in western Montana. This watershed supports some of the most productive fish and wildlife habitat in the Northern Rocky Mountains, and forms the southern edge of the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem that supports the largest population of grizzly bears in the lower 48 states. Sprinkled throughout the watershed are some 2,500 households and seven communities; working land drives our economies and values. The Blackfoot Challenge coordinates a community-based approach to conservation with private landowners and public managers in the watershed.

We appreciate the work of the Montana Watershed Coordination Council to support a community-based approach to conservation throughout the State.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Stone". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "J" and "S".

Jim Stone, Board Chair

P.O. Box 70 · Polson, MT 59860  
(406) 883-1346  
Fax (406) 883-1357  
lakers@flatheadlakers.org  
www.flatheadlakers.org



**Flathead Lakers:**  
*Working for clean water, a healthy  
ecosystem, and lasting quality of life in  
the Flathead Watershed*

September 19, 2014

Kristin Sewak, Executive Director  
Montana Watershed Coordination Council  
1101 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Kristin,

The Flathead Lakers support the Montana Watershed Coordination Council's (MWCC) proposal for funding from the 319 Grant Program for *Impactful Nonpoint Source Restoration in Montana*. This new funding program for restoration projects would increase opportunities to protect and improve Montana's vital water resources.

The Flathead Lakers is a nonprofit organization founded in 1958 with over 1,500 members. Our mission is to protect clean water, healthy ecosystems and lasting quality of life in the Flathead Watershed. We work with numerous partners to conserve and restore critical lands to sustain and improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, prime farm land, recreation opportunities, and scenic beauty. The Flathead Lakers have hosted Big Sky Watershed Corps (BSWC) members to pilot a collaborative Flathead River Steward Program for two years. The Lakers and partners are pleased with how successful this program has been for improving partner coordination and landowner outreach, and for restoration project planning, implementation, monitoring and maintenance.

The *Impactful Nonpoint Source Restoration in Montana* program will provide a streamlined grant process that will allow faster application of funds to implement clean water best management practices and restoration projects as opportunities arise, and will enhance the effectiveness of the BSWC program by targeting funding to support projects with BSWC member involvement. The resulting benefits will include more opportunities for building partnerships among watershed stakeholders, including landowners, to facilitate water quality protection and restoration, while providing opportunities for recent college graduates to gain practical experience through meaningful work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Constanza'.

Constanza von der Pahlen  
Critical Lands Program Director



Blue Water Task Force, Inc.  
PO Box 160513  
Big Sky, Montana 59716  
[www.bluewatertaskforce.org](http://www.bluewatertaskforce.org)

September 26, 2014

Water Activities Work Group 319 Review Committee  
Montana Department of Environmental Quality  
1520 E. Sixth Avenue  
P.O. Box 200901  
Helena, MT 59620-0901

RE: 319 Grant Application Support Letter

Dear 319 Review Committee:

On behalf of the Blue Water Task Force, a nonprofit watershed group dedicated to promoting the stewardship of the Gallatin River, I would like to express our support for the 319 application, Impactful Nonpoint Source Restoration in Montana, from the Montana Watershed Coordination Council to develop nonpoint source implementation funding for those with approved Watershed Restoration Plans. As a group that is planning multiple watershed restoration projects, we are very aware of the need for more funding sources for these types of projects.

The Blue Water Task Force offers its enthusiastic support for the MWCC application for nonpoint source implementation projects and urges you to approve this proposal for funding. Thank you for your consideration of their proposal.

Sincerely,

Kristin Gardner  
Executive Director, Blue Water Task Force