

Section I: General Information

Project Title FY 2016 Education and Outreach Mini-Grants

Project Sponsor Information

Name	<u>Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Montana, Inc. (SWCDMI)</u>	Tax Identification Number	<u>23-7096823</u>
Address	<u>1101 11th Avenue</u>	Website	<u>www.macdnet.org www.swcdmi.org</u>
City	<u>Helena</u>	State	<u>Montana</u>
		Zip Code	<u>59601</u>
		County	<u>Lewis and Clark</u>
Primary Contact	<u>Seth Elsen</u>	Signatory	<u>Ann McCauley</u>
Title	<u>Operations Manager</u>	Title	<u>Programs Director</u>
Phone Number	<u>(406) 443-5711</u>	Phone Number	<u>(406) 443-5711</u>
Fax Number	<u>n/a</u>	Fax Number	<u>n/a</u>
E-mail Address	<u>mail@macdnet.org</u>	E-mail Address	<u>ann@macdnet.org</u>
Signature	<u></u>	Signature	<u></u>

Project Funding

319 Funds Requested	<u>\$30,000.00</u>	Does the project sponsor have any open 319 contracts?	<u>Yes</u>
Matching Funds		Project Title	<u>FY 2014 319 E&O MINI GRANT PROGRAM</u>
State Cash Match	<u></u>	DEQ Contract Number	<u>214010</u>
Local Cash Match	<u>\$16,000.00</u>	319 Award	<u>\$25,000.00</u>
In-Kind Match	<u>\$4,000.00</u>	Projected Closing Date	<u>June 30, 2016</u>
Total Match	<u>\$20,000.00</u>	Project Title	<u></u>
Other Federal Funds	<u></u>	DEQ Contract Number	<u></u>
Total Project Budget	<u>\$50,000.00</u>	319 Award	<u></u>
Administrative Fee	<u>\$3,000.00</u>	Projected Closing Date	<u></u>

Project Location

Which WRP does this project implement?	<u>Other</u>	What is the status of the WRP?	<u>DEQ Accepted</u>
Does the project address impairments in a TMDL?	<u>Yes</u>	12 Digit HUC #(s)	<u>varies depending on awarded projects</u>
(1) Waterbody Name from 2014 List of Impaired Waters	<u>Varies</u>	Activity 1 Name	<u>NPS Education & Outreach Projects</u>
(1) Probable Cause(s) of Impairment to be addressed (ex. metals)	<u>Sediment, nutrients, metals, temperature, salinity, etc.</u>	Latitude (1)	<u></u>
(2) Waterbody Name from 2014 List of Impaired Waters	<u></u>	Longitude (1)	<u></u>
(2) Probable Cause(s) of Impairment to be addressed (ex. metals)	<u></u>	Activity 2 Name	<u></u>
		Latitude (2)	<u></u>
		Longitude (2)	<u></u>

Section II: Project Description

Goals and Objectives: Describe the overall goal and specific objectives for this project.

This grant will fund at least 12 individual education & outreach mini grants of up to \$2,000 each. Eligible entities include: conservation districts; watershed groups; schools; nonprofit conservation organizations; agencies; etc. In the past, these mini grants have funded a variety of education and outreach projects, including: volunteer monitoring programs, Trout in the Classroom, streambank bioengineering workshops, and watershed tours. Grants awarded under this program may be similar but could include new ideas or programs. Education and outreach will be focused on non-point source pollution, or issues dealing with cumulative impacts on water quality.

Methods: Describe the approach selected to address/correct the problem(s), e.g. types of BMPs to be installed, and other important activities.

This grant will fund education & outreach mini grants for FY2016, as well as management of the mini grant program for the state of Montana. Two calls for mini-grant applications will be solicited- one in September 2016 and one in February 2017. Each call will be advertised with press releases and advertisements through the Montana Association of Conservation Districts' (MACD) newsletter and list serve, Montana Watershed Coordination Council (MWCC) newsletter, and Montana Watercourse's list serve. A review committee comprised of diverse members representing agency, conservation districts, watershed groups and general water interests will rank the applications. Successful applicants will need to be a legal entity, have the ability to manage federal funding, and provide proof of liability insurance as required by DEQ to receive federal funding. For awarded projects, a scope of work will be developed that outlines the project's goals, objectives, and deliverables, and a memorandum of understanding between SWCDM and the award entity will be signed that describes the requirements of the award.

Summary: Provide a brief summary of the project.

At least 12 individual education & outreach mini grants of up to \$2,000 each will be funded through this project. With a quick turn around from the time of the call until funds are available, this program meets local needs and puts funding on the ground to assist with non-point source pollution issues. From 2010 to 2013, SWCDM received 69 proposals and funded 49 of them. Over \$231,000 in non-federal match has been leveraged from just \$93,000 of awarded funds to the program during this same time period.

Monitoring: Describe the monitoring you will conduct to measure project effectiveness.

Individual projects will include an evaluation of the project's effectiveness based on the project's goals and objectives as defined in the scope of work. At the program level, SWCDMI will communicate with grantees on how the awarded funding has benefited their organization's goals towards improving NPS water quality awareness in their local watersheds.

Education and Outreach: Briefly describe the education and outreach component of this project and the target audience.

The main focus of these mini-grant applications is education and outreach. The target audience will be defined by the projects awarded. Targeted audiences from past years have included K-12 students and educators, conservation district supervisors, watershed group members, local community members, and the general public.

Partners and Roles: Identify the project partners and their roles.

Partner	Role
MT DEQ	Assistance and oversight of the project
Conservation Districts/Watershed Groups	Eligible for mini grant
Local Government	Eligible for mini grant
School groups	Eligible for mini grant
Review committee: agency, MWCC, MACD	Assistance in reviewing and ranking applications

Section III: Scope of Work

Task 1 Title Mini grant awards

319 Funds

Non-Federal Match

Other Federal Funds

Total Cost

Timeline July 2016-June 2018

Description

At least 12 individual mini-grants for education & outreach activities will be selected using a competitive state-wide process and shall not exceed \$2,000. Eligible entities include: conservation districts, watershed groups, schools, nonprofit conservation organizations, agencies, and volunteer groups. Educational activity types can include but are not limited to: start-up for volunteer monitoring; purchasing of equipment for NPS education; water festivals or tours; signs or kiosks about local water quality issues, and producing radio, television, billboard, newspaper, and magazine messages. Projects must be focused on NPS pollution, or issues dealing with cumulative impacts on water quality.

Task 2 Title Promote and manage mini grant program

319 Funds

Non-Federal Match

Other Federal Funds

Total Cost

Timeline July 2016-June 2018

Description

An application form and criteria for selection of mini-grant projects will be developed. Activities will include: promotion of the mini-grant program; solicitation for calls for applications; coordination of a diverse review committee; and management of awarded projects. Two calls for mini grants will be released, one in September 2016 and the other in February 2017. The committee will review grant applications and select the most competitive projects. All awarded grants will be subject to DEQ approval.

Task 3 Title Project administration

319 Funds

Non-Federal Match

Other Federal Funds

Total Cost

Timeline July 2016-June 2018

Description

SWCDM will submit quarterly status reports with match statements and requests for reimbursement, annual reports, and a final report. SWCDM will maintain regular communication with the DEQ project manager and address any issues voiced by DEQ regarding the program or funded projects.

Task 4 Title _____

319 Funds

Non-Federal Match

Other Federal Funds

Total Cost

Timeline _____

Description

Task 5 Title _____

319 Funds

Non-Federal Match

Other Federal Funds

Total Cost

Timeline _____

Description

Task 6 Title _____	
319 Funds	<input type="text"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text"/>
Timeline	_____
Description	
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Task 7 Title _____	
319 Funds	<input type="text"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text"/>
Timeline	_____
Description	
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Task 8 Title _____	
319 Funds	<input type="text"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text"/>
Timeline	_____
Description	
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Task 9 Title _____	
319 Funds	<input type="text"/>
Non-Federal Match	<input type="text"/>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>
Total Cost	<input type="text"/>
Timeline	_____
Description	
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Comments: Use the space provided for any additional information that may not have been captured elsewhere in this proposal form.

In July 2015, SWCDM was notified by DEQ that EPA is allowing applicants for our FY2015 mini grant contract to be exempt from the 319 funding requirement of implementing a DEQ-approved watershed restoration plan (WRP) for these small, education and outreach-based projects. However, proposals that do have a WRP will be given preference.