



Flathead Conservation District
133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901

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December 19, 2008

Dear WAWG Committee,

I would like to offer my support of the Montana Watercourse 319 Education & Outreach grant application "Riparian and Wetland Buffer Education." Healthy riparian and wetland buffers are an important way to protect Montana's water quality. Buffer education and resources for Montana's youth and their mentors is needed to promote a culture that truly understands the value of these areas and works to restore and protect them. MTWC is a trusted source of information and programs for water resources and is in a good position to deliver effective on the ground buffer education.

Montana Watercourse proposes to target Montana's educators and students in areas that are experiencing development and that are also targeted in the Riparian Buffer Media Campaign currently administered by the Flathead Conservation District and being implemented in a six-county area. We have encouraged MTWC to provide complimentary, on the ground, buffer-related resources and programs to capitalize and expand upon our campaign. With support from this grant and partnerships with local groups and experts, MTWC will conduct outreach to educators and students through buffer service learning projects, tours, curriculum, resource development and a mini symposium for partners of Eric Vincent's "Riparian Repair Teams".

Flathead Conservation District works collaboratively with MTWC to achieve the goals of education and outreach to reduce non-point source pollution. We fully support their proposed activities in this grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patti Mason".

Patti Mason
Outreach & Watershed Coordinator