

The Gallatin Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on October 18, 2018 at 4:00 pm. Acting Chairman John Schutter called the 310 meeting to order at 4:10 pm. Supervisors present: Sherwin Leep, Mike Hansen, Jason Camp, Bob Logar, and Loren Blanksma. Absent: Doug Espelien and John Venhuizen. Staff present: Mary Hendrix and Nathanael Johns.

Those present: Ed Spotts-KC Harvey, Ray Center-Rocky Mountain Engineers, Jennifer Mohler-GISA, Mike Rotar-RESPEC, Matt Johnson-RESPEC, and Christopher Mahony-NRCS.

**Public Comments on District 310 Permitting Business:** None

**310 Inspection Reports Decision**

<u>Application Number:</u>	GD 62-18	Inspection Date:	10/9/2018
Applicant:		Bob Petitt – Bridger Bowl Ski Area	
Landowner:		Bob Petitt – Bridger Bowl Ski Area	
Contractor/Agent:		Ed Spotts – KC Harvey Environmental	
Perennial Stream:		Unnamed Drainage / Wetland	
Type of Projects:		Bridge/Culvert/Ford Construction; Road Construction/Maintenance; Channel Alteration; Wetland Alteration; Placement of Fill	
Purpose:		To perform road improvements and install culverts. The project will replace and abandon/repurpose a 1,143-foot portion of the existing access road near the Bridger Bowl ski hill facilities with approximately 1,168-feet of newly constructed road.	
Proposed Construction Date:		Start date: 7/1/2019	Finish date: 11/30/2019
Inspection Recommendation:		Approval with modifications	
Inspection Comments:		Use 1000 bio-fabric (1 roll width) along toe of fill slope to mitigate potential erosion from new flow path. Seed fill slope with native grasses if available and practical.	

**Discussion:**

*M Johnson:* Preparing for a new lodge, realigning the road to the upper mountain lodge. The concentrated flow is being redirected. It's a borderline jurisdiction stream, but has a defined bed and bank further down. It's a good project, but maybe more of a 404 permitted project. Recommend using fabric on the toe.

*J Schutter:* Start date July 2019?

*R Center:* The earliest a contract can work would be in July 2019.

*M Johnson:* If the project extends past November 30, 2019, you can ask for an extension.

*E Spotts:* The 404 permit has already been approved by the Corp.

*M Hansen* moved the approve the project with modifications, *B Logar* seconds, motion carries

**Decision:** Approval with modifications

Application Number: GD 63-18      Inspection Date: 10/9/2018

Applicant:      Tench Coxe

Landowners:      Americus, LLC

Contractor/Agent:      Scott Davis, Pond and Stream Consulting, Inc.

Perennial Stream:      Toohey Drain Ditch (UT to Ben Hart Creek)

Type of Project:      Bridge/Culvert/Ford Construction; Channel Alteration; Excavation  
(Pools/Habitat); Fish Habitat; Wetland Alteration (expansion);  
Temporary Construction Access; Placement of Fill; Improvement of  
Fish and Wildlife Habitat

Purpose:      To create a naturalized spring creek channel that will provide  
much improved trout spawning and rearing habitat. Propose to  
narrow and add habitat complexity to approximately 1,420 lineal  
feet of existing drain ditch.

Proposed Construction Date:      Start date: 10/1/2018    Finish date: 5/31/2019

Inspection Recommendation:      Approval with modifications

Inspection Comments:      Avoid construction of restoration component of project during  
active spawning. Good projects!

Discussion:

*M Johnson:* Very familiar with this project, and they are planning on more of the same. Should be okay to complete culvert work early, but recommend delaying stream work until after trout spawning.

*M Hansen* moved to approve the project with modifications allowing for culvert work to be done right away and the balance of work starting after brown trout spawning + a 15-day waiting period waiver,

*S Leep* seconds, motion carries

Decision:      Approval with modifications + 15-day waiting period waiver

Application Number: GD 64 -18      Inspection Date: 10/9/2018

Applicant:      Steve Wallingford

Landowner:      Spain Bridge Meadows LLC

Contractor/Agent:      Drake Burford, Restoration Engineering LLC

Perennial Stream:      East Gallatin River

Type of Project:      Bank Stabilization/Alteration; Channel Alteration; Irrigation  
Structure

Purpose:      To protect an irrigation pump and associated infrastructure from  
lateral channel migration.

Proposed Construction Date:      Start date: 11/12/2018    Finish date: 11/23/2018

Inspection Recommendation:      Approval with modifications

Inspection Comments:                      Ensure recent fallen log/root-ball is embedded securely into bank treatment via backfill, ballast log, and cable/dead-man (if necessary).

Discussion:

*M Johnson:* The project is located on a tight spot upstream from Spain Bridge. A project through Trout Unlimited moved a pump diversion from a nearby ditch to the East Gallatin River. With the spring flows this year, they lost a lot of ground exposing the rock below the back full. There's an abundance of woody debris and one really large root-ball. D Burford said that they will back fill and anchor it. I recommend also using cable and to dead man it.

*S Leep* moved to approve the project with modifications, *J Camp* seconds, motion carries

Decision:                                      Approval with modifications

Application Number: GD 65-18

Inspection Date: N/A

Applicant:                                    Tom Kersbergen – Park Electric

Landowner:                                  Tucquan Properties LLC

Contractor/Agent:                          Park Electric Cooperative

Perennial Stream:                          Cache Creek

Type of Project:                            Utilities

Purpose:                                        Bring electric service to the west side of Cache Creek

Proposed Construction Date:            Start date: 11/15/2018 Finish date: 11/17/2018

Inspection Recommendation:            **NOT A PROJECT**

Comments:                                  Applicant contacted and advised not a project

Discussion:

*S Leep* moved to declare application is not a project, *M Hansen* seconds, motion carries

Decision:                                      Not a project

Application Number: GD 66-18

Inspection Date: 9/11/2018

Applicant:                                    Scott Schmidt

Landowner:                                  Crosscut Mountain Sports Center

Contractor/Agent:                          Not provided

Perennial Stream:                          Bridger Creek

Type of Project:                            Bridge/Culvert/Ford Construction

Purpose:                                        To provide a stream crossing for snow-cat grooming of Nordic trail system. Install a 48" x 40' culvert in Bridger Creek.

Proposed Construction Date:            Start date: 11/1/2018    Finish date: 11/30/2018

Inspection Comments:                      Inspected site September 11, 2018

Discussion:

*M Rotar:* This is located at Crosscut Mountain Sports Center. Buddy Drake and I were out there last month. Discussed this location at that inspection, recommended that they put in an application for a 48" culvert and countersink it. We also suggested that they may elect to put a bridge at this location.

*B Logar* moved to approve the project as proposed (installation of 48" x 40" culvert as proposed), *J Camp* seconds, motion carries

Decision: Approval as proposed

Application Number: GD 67-18

Inspection Date: 10/9/2018

Applicant: Duane & Stephanie Stranahan

Landowner: Duane & Stephanie Stranahan

Contractor/Agent: Not provided

Perennial Stream: Bridger Creek

Type of Project: Bank Stabilization/Alteration

Purpose: During this year's high water, Bridger Creek eroded the banks under out hot tub gazebo and in front of our back door. The creek is now about 20 feet from our house. We propose removing the gazebo and stabilizing the banks with rock, cabled fully limbed trees and top soil.

Proposed Construction Date: Start date: 10/22/2018 Finish date: 10/25/2018

Inspection Recommendation: Approval with modifications + 15-day waiting period waiver

Inspection Comments: Site 1 is by the gazebo, Site 2 is at back door to house. Trees should only be used at Site 1. Incorporate 2'-rock with large existing boulders for use at Site 2 and Site 1.

Discussion:

*M Johnson:* Buddy showed us the site. There are large rectangular rocks in front of the house and the creek is pretty close to the house. The application is looking to get rid of the gazebo and hot tub. We recommend not to put any trees near the bank by the house.

*L Blanksma* moved to approve the project with modifications + a 15-day waiting period waiver, *S Leep* seconds, motion carries

Decision: Approval with modifications + a 15-day waiting period waiver

Application Number: GD 68-18

Inspection Date: 10/9/2018

Applicant: Legends II at Bridger Creek HOA

Landowner: Legends II at Bridger Creek HOA

Contractor/Agent: Not provided

Perennial Stream: Bridger Creek

Type of Project: Removal of beaver dam  
Purpose: Reduce the damage from a beaver dam causing premature flooding that has and is continually causing damage to the trail and destabilizing the creek bank.  
Proposed Construction Date: Start date: 11/30/2018 Finish date: 3/31/2019  
Inspection Recommendation: **On Hold;** Hold for one month to agree on solid direction from applicant.

Discussion:

*M Johnson:* They are looking to remove a beaver dam to restore historic flow. Applicants are consulting various engineering companies and have many suggestions to review. As it isn't flooding homes, there is no urgency at this time. Applicants plan to take time to consider all options.

*B Logar* moved to acknowledge application placed on hold until we receive solid direction from the applicant, *S Leep* seconds, motion carries

Decision: Application on hold

Application Number: GD 69-18      Inspection Date: 10/9/2018  
Applicant: Ron and Jane Lerner  
Landowner: Ron and Jane Lerner  
Contractor/Agent: DeWitt Dominick  
Perennial Stream: Rocky Creek  
Type of Project: Bank Stabilization/Alteration  
Purpose: Stabilize and protect the left embankment of Rocky Creek where a 80 foot segment of the bank is failing.  
Proposed Construction Date: Start date: 11/5/2018    Finish date: 11/9/2018  
Inspection Recommendation: Approval with modifications  
Inspection Comments: Fall construction preferred, permit and weather delays may push into spring (pre-runoff only). Embed rock toe 2' (minimum) below bed of stream.

Discussion:

*M Johnson:* This is located just off of Moffit Gulch Bridge. An identical bank treatment was done upstream in the past. The project area is upstream of the bridge. This may impact the bridge in the future, but applicant is looking to protect the meander of the river and trees to the bridge.

*S Leep* moved to approve the project with modifications (inspection comments), *M Hansen* seconds, motion carries

Decision: Approval with modifications

**4.    310 Emergency Applications: None**

**5.    310 Old Business:**

Application Number: GD 5C-18

Inspection Date: 10/16/2018

Alleged Violator:

James Houdashelt

Perennial Stream:

Middle Fork of Hyalite Creek

Natural of Complaint:

James Houdashelt hired a dump truck and backhoe and razed a 118 year old house structure on his property at 1750 East Baseline Road. He then used this equipment to transfer the materials to the south end of his property which shares the property line with ours at 1780 East Baseline east of the creek. Multiple trips were taken across Middle Creek with the heavy machinery filled with debris over the course of at least 3 days. The structure materials were dumped in piles two deep in some places up the fence line adjacent to our property. At least some of the dump site is in the flood plain.

Inspection Comments:

Activity is not a violation as defined by district rules

Discussion:

*M Hansen* moved to acknowledge that this falls under historic ford use and not a 310 violation, *S Leep* seconds, motion carries

Decision:

Not a 310 violation

Application Number: GD 6C-18

Inspection Date: 10/16/2018

Alleged Violator:

Viking 1 Investors LLC (one principal is Hjalmar Syverson)

Perennial Stream:

Gallatin River

Natural of Complaint:

It appears that the landowner has used heavy equipment to clear land directly adjacent to the main channel of the river and has pushed the trees, brush etc. into the river and damaged the integrity of the river bank. Raw, fresh dirt is plainly visible. They have also installed a "zip line" across the channel of the river to the "island" on the other side, which island and river channels are lands owned by the State of Montana. The zip line impedes the ability of fisherman to cast their lines in that stretch of the river.

Inspection Comments:

Activity is not a violation as defined by district rules.

Remediation:

Re-seed area where topsoil was placed.

Discussion:

*M Rotar*: This is located just south of Four Corners. There was some soil brought in and smooth on the bank. Recommend re-seeding area where the topsoil was placed. *S Leep* moved to declare that this is not a 310 violation, *B Logar* seconds, motion carries

Decision:

Not a 310 violation

**6.    310 New Business:**

Application Number: GD 7C-18

Inspection Date: 10/16/2018

Alleged Violator:

Brett Evje

Perennial Stream:

Hyalite Creek

Natural of Complaint:

Over the course of several weeks work has been done near the stream bed of Middle Creek on just South of the bridge on Baxter or the SE corner of the Baxter and Middle Creek intersection (Monforton School Road). A number of trees from the intersection to the stream bed have been cut and removed and what looks to be a temporary access road created within 20' of a fairly major intersection. Heavy equipment has been operated near the stream bed with no visible protection measures taken.

Inspection Comments:

Activity is not a violation as defined by district rules.

Remediation

Re-seed disturbed ground with native species.

Discussion:

*M Rotar:* This is on the corner of Monforton School Road and Baxter Lane, on the east side of Hyalite Creek. The homeowner put up a privacy berm around the corner. The toe is back 15' – 20' from Hyalite Creek. Recommend re-seeding disturbed ground with native species.

*M Hansen* moved to declare that this is not a 310 violation, *B Logar* seconds, motion carries

Decision:

Not a 310 violation

**7.    Adjournment of 310 Meeting @ 5:15 pm**

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**Public Comments on District Business:**

Ken Fenno, Manhattan Bank: The Manhattan Bible Church is outgrowing its space. They are looking at long term solutions, but asked if they could utilize the GCD Conference Room in the meantime on Sundays beginning in January 2019. *B Logar* made the motion to approve Manhattan Bible Church using the GCD Conference Room, *L Blanksma* seconds, motion carries. GCD considers this as an opportunity to help in the community, but will charge \$100 monthly to help cover some of the costs of utilities.

**Grants/Agreements/Contract Report:**

Jennifer Mohler, GISA update: This GCD grant will help fund treating noxious weeds in Gallatin Canyon by allowing GISA to hire Montana Conservation Crew in 2019. She used the GCD grant funding to leverage the Big Sky Resort tax and did get funding for \$4,000 match for private landowners + education. She met with Karen with the Gallatin National Forest and they have a good outline of the treatment areas. This year, she treated 58.5 acres this year along with 4-5 MCC crew and 2 Forest Service members.

Other grant updates:

The DEQ 319 Mini grant for the Colorimeter Data Collector has been submitted.

The HB223 grant for the Montana Youth Range Camp has been submitted.

**Consensus Agenda:** September minutes. *M Hansen* moved to approve the consensus agenda, *J Camp* seconds, motion carries

**Accounting:** (Deposit, Credit Card, Invoices) + P&L and Balance Sheet. *M Hansen* made the motion to approve the financials + pay invoices; *J Camp* seconds, motion carries

**NRCS (10/18/2018) District Report – Christopher Mahony**

Water year (Oct) to date precipitation % of Normal

Gallatin:	Sept; 114%	Oct; 122%
Madison:	Sept; 102%	Oct; 140%
Jefferson:	Sept; 110%	Oct; 158%
Yellowstone:	Sept; 118%	Oct; 113%

**Programs**

EQIP:    Certifying practices; 77 items to certify  
         Planning new applications  
CSP;    Payments for existing contracts



Events

Past;    MACD area 6 meeting Park County 9/26

Future; Gallatin Valley Agriculture; planning for the future (Nov 8)

Training; Soil moisture; Stillwater County Fairgrounds (Nov 9)

Clarkston Fire;

Cooperative working agreement: *S Leep* made the motion to acknowledges the CWA with NRCS, *M Hansen* / *L Blanksma* seconds, motion carries

**County Planning Board: None**

**Manhattan Planning Board:**

*B Logar*: The Manhattan Planning Board was supposed to meet on October 17, 2018, but didn't have a quorum. The only thing on the agenda was Edward Jones plans to move into the White building.

**New Business:**

MACD Convention: *M Hansen* will be at the Convention as he is a MACD Area 6 Director and SWCDM Chairman. *B Logar* moved to appoint *M Hansen* as the GCD representative at the Business meeting, *S Leep* seconds, motion carries.

**Well-Testing Cost-share Program: None**

**Cost-share Program: None**

**CD Seminars/Workshops: None**

**Correspondence and Handouts (in mailed packets):**

Staff report

MACD Convention Draft Agenda, Resolutions & Registration

**Old Business: None**

**Adjournment of Meeting**

*J Schutter* made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm. The next scheduled board meeting will be Thursday, November 29, 2018 at 9:00 am.

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Minutes approved by John Schutter, Vice Chairman

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Date