

**April 21, 2022**  
**4:00pm**

**GALLATIN CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Topic: GCD February Board Meeting  
Time: April 21, 2022 • 04:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

**Meeting Location: GCD Conference Room- 120 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, B102- Manhattan, MT**

**Zoom Details**

**[April Zoom Link](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82620586377?pwd=bn9CbVhvVTF1UlpVOFdTUCvL0JlQT09)**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82620586377?pwd=bn9CbVhvVTF1UlpVOFdTUCvL0JlQT09>

Meeting ID: 826 2058 6377

Passcode: 823893

**Call in**

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 826 2058 6377

Passcode: 823893

**310MEETING AGENDA**

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

**2. 310 Inspection Reports: Ready for Discussion and Board Decision**

**a. Application Number: GD 02-22**

Inspection Date: Waived

Applicant:

Annie Stone

Landowner:

Contractor/Agent:

Morrison-Maierle, Inc

Perennial Stream:

W. Gallatin River

Type of Project:

Bank Alteration and Restoration

Purpose:

In response to activity performed without proper permitting- the owner received violation notices from both the Gallatin County Floodplain and the GCD (GD 17C-21). The goal of this project is for the current landowner to gain compliance under the 310 Law and with the Gallatin County Floodplain Administration. The landowner will restore the gravel bar within the W. Gallatin River and permit the alterations made to the subject property. The landowner requests an "after the fact" permit for excavation within the overflow channel from the Conservation District.

Proposed Construction Date:

Start date: 4/22/2022 Finish date: 5/13/2022

Inspection Recommendation:

Inspection Comments:

Discussion:

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**b. Application Number: GD 15-22**

Inspection Date: April 18, 2022

Applicant:

John S. Milesnick

Landowner:

Tench Coxe/Americus LLC

Contractor/Agent:

Perennial Stream:

E. Gallatin River

Type of Project:

Channel/Bank alteration and stabilization, removal of debris (old car, parts of duck blind).

Purpose:

Project is necessary to correct violation of past activities and to continue cleaning debris from the river.

Proposed Construction Date:

Start date: 4/15/2022 Finish date: 7/30/2022

Inspection Recommendation:

Inspection Comments:

Discussion:

**c. Application Number: GD 16-22**

Inspection Date: April 19, 2022

Applicant:

Mick Seeburg

Landowner:

Contractor/Agent:

Perennial Stream:

Gallatin River

Type of Project:

Irrigation-Headgate. Annual maintenance permit requested.

Purpose:

To clear debris from headgate of Cockrill Ditch to produce crops and water livestock.

Proposed Construction Date:

Start date: Yearly- April 1 Finish date: Yearly- October 30

Inspection Recommendation:

Inspection Comments:

Discussion:

**d. Application Number: GD 17-22**

Inspection Date: April 18, 2022

Applicant:

Kameron Kelsey

Landowner:

Kim Kelsey

Contractor/Agent:

Perennial Stream:

Taylor Fork of Gallatin River

Type of Project:

Agricultural and Irrigation

Purpose:

To create a headgate to have location to hook up irrigation pump.

Proposed Construction Date:

Start date: 7/1/2022 Finish date: 12/31/2022

Inspection Recommendation:

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Inspection Comments:

Discussion:

e. Application Number: GD 18-22

Inspection Date: April 19, 2022

Applicant:

Baker Springs Owners Association Inc. (Wright Ditch)

Landowner:

Jeffrey St. Cyr

Contractor/Agent:

Kingfisher Consulting Inc.

Perennial Stream:

Gallatin River

Type of Project:

Agriculture/Irrigation Projects

Purpose:

Irrigation maintenance permit- to divert water to the Wright Ditch and satisfy water rights.

Proposed Construction Date:

Start date: 4/1/2022 Finish date: 12/31/2022

Inspection Recommendation:

Inspection Comments:

Discussion:

f. Application Number: GD 19-22

Inspection Date: Waived\*\*

Applicant:

Rebecca Carroll

Landowner:

Contractor/Agent:

Perennial Stream:

Gallatin River

Type of Project:

Agriculture/Irrigation, Vegetation/Tree Removal, Culvert Removal, Debris Removal

Purpose:

Burn dead trees, branches, and debris in berm. Place remaining material of berm into the ditch that was enlarged when cleaning said ditch out. Brush/tree debris that is contained in the berm will be dispersed over the area of disturbance of the berm and ditch area. Topsoil pile mixed with other organic materials at the south end of the pasture area will be spread evenly in the vicinity of that pile's current location. Remove culvert pipes that were installed to replace the one that was in place prior to the purchase of the property. Blend grade at the area of the culvert pipes to that of the surrounding existing grades. Seed disturbed area with native grass blend. Fire prevention. Increased safety for animals and people.

Proposed Construction Date:

Start date: 3/1/2021 Finish date: 7/1/2022 \*Some of this work already completed (violation GD 17C-21)

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Inspection Recommendation:

Inspection Comments:

Discussion:

g. Application Number: GD 20-22

Inspection Date: April 18, 2022

Applicant:

Laughing Horse Ranch, LLC (Kingsley Murphy)

Landowner:

Contractor/Agent:

Confluence Consulting, Inc.

Perennial Stream:

Spring Creek

Type of Project:

Agriculture/Irrigation Project

Purpose:

To design a stable diversion, headgate, pump configuration, and water tank system associated with a new point of diversion location due to channel incision disconnecting the existing point of diversion associated with multiple water rights. Existing diversion ditch is disconnected approximately 6-10 feet above the existing creek level.

Proposed Construction Date:

Start date: 6/1/2021    Finish date: 6/8/2022

Inspection Recommendation:

Inspection Comments:

Discussion:

h. Application Number: GD 21-22

Inspection Date: April 19, 2022

Applicant:

Jefferson Spring Creek Ranch

Landowner:

Contractor/Agent:

Rowe Excavation Inc.

Perennial Stream:

Unnamed Tributary

Type of Project:

Channel Alteration

Purpose:

To enhance fish habitat and create spawning riffle with pools for holding water and cover from on-site trees.

Proposed Construction Date:

Start date: 4/30/2022    Finish date: 4/30/2023

Inspection Recommendation:

Inspection Comments:

Discussion:

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**i. Application Number: GD 22-22**

Inspection Date: April 19, 2022

Applicant:

Jefferson Spring Creek Ranch

Landowner:

Contractor/Agent:

Rowe Excavation, Inc.

Perennial Stream:

Lower Jefferson Ditch

Type of Project:

Culvert

Purpose:

To allow access across the channel without driving through water and ice throughout the year. Higher water and ice during the winter prohibit crossing.

Proposed Construction Date:

Start date: 4/30/2022 Finish date: 4/30/2023

Inspection Recommendation:

Inspection Comments:

Discussion:

**j. Application Number: GD 23-22**

Inspection Date: April 19, 2022

Applicant:

Jefferson Spring Creek Ranch

Landowner:

Contractor/Agent:

Rowe Excavation, Inc.

Perennial Stream:

Lower Jefferson Ditch

Type of Project:

Culvert

Purpose:

To allow access across the channel without driving through water and ice throughout the year. Higher water and ice during the winter prohibit crossing.

Proposed Construction Date:

Start date: 4/30/2022 Finish date: 4/30/2023

Inspection Recommendation:

Inspection Comments:

Discussion:

**k. Application Number: GD 24-22**

Inspection Date: Waived

Applicant:

Michael Strasser

Landowner:

Contractor/Agent:

Confluence Consulting, Inc.

Perennial Stream:

Unnamed Tributary (intermittent)

Type of Project:

Pond Construction, Bridge

Purpose:

The primary goal of the project is to create a pond to be used for fishing, fire protection, and stock watering. Secondary goals were

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to build the pond in location where it could be: 1- gravity fed by an upgradient source of groundwater, and 2- where it would engulf only a small amount of pasture space. The tertiary goal of the project is to provide easy access to the proposed pond.

Proposed Construction Date:  
Inspection Recommendation:  
Inspection Comments:  
Discussion:

Start date: 6/1/2022    Finish date: 9/30/2022

**l. Application Number: GD 25-22**

Applicant:  
Landowner:  
Contractor/Agent:  
Perennial Stream:  
Type of Project:  
Purpose:

Inspection Date: Waived  
Dale Swiringen and Dixie Deeter  
Dixie Deeter

Jefferson River  
Channel Alteration

The purpose is to address violation issued by the Gallatin Conservation District and Army Corps of Engineers for placement of unauthorized fill material along a jurisdictional waterway.

Proposed Construction Date:  
Inspection Recommendation:  
Inspection Comments:  
Discussion:

Start date: 5/1/2022    Finish date: 5/15/2022

**m. Application Number: GD 26-22**

Applicant:  
Landowner:  
Contractor/Agent:  
Perennial Stream:  
Type of Project:  
Purpose:

Inspection Date: April 18, 2022  
Tammy Estensen, Big Sky Owners Association (BSOA) Inc.  
Suzan Scott- BSOA  
WGM Group

WF Gallatin River  
Bank restoration, dredging

The purpose of this project is to restore a free-flowing stream channel and floodplain adjacent to Little Coyote Pond and Silverbow Pond and to dredge Little Coyote Pond to enhance the recreational fishing amenity. Both ponds currently capture fine sediment loads in the West Fork and are becoming silted in. Historically, the project reach was comprised of a mountain meadow stream environment, similar to Fan Creek in the upper

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Gallatin Watershed at the boundary with Yellowstone National Park, with a broad riparian area densely colonized with willows, numerous beaver complexes, and an abundant population of native Westslope Cutthroat Trout and Arctic Grayling. Implementation of this project will support existing populations of trout, including Rainbow, Brown, and Brook trout within the upper Gallatin watershed, while providing a recreational fishing amenity with a focus on inspiring young anglers.

Proposed Construction Date: Start date: 9/15/2022 Finish date: 11/15/2024  
Inspection Recommendation:  
Inspection Comments:  
Discussion:

**n. Application Number: GD 27-22**

Inspection Date: Waived  
Applicant: Jason Howell  
Landowner: Zeke Dumke  
Contractor/Agent: Howell Septic & Excavating  
Perennial Stream: Hebgen Lake  
Type of Project: Channel Alteration/Dredging, Boat Dock, Debris Removal  
Purpose: To add a boat dock and some rock to improve access and preserve the bank area from erosion. Also will remove dirt and natural debris to place the rock. This will improve the marina area for recreational opportunities. Eventually a house will be built on the zoned lot in the subdivision.

Proposed Construction Date: Start date: 4/2022 Finish date: 5/31/2022  
Inspection Recommendation:  
Inspection Comments:  
Discussion:

**3. Complaints:**

**a. Complaint Number: GD 20C-21**

Inspection Date: April 19, 2022  
Complainant: Thomas Elfmont  
Perennial Stream: Beasley Creek

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b. Complaint Number: GD 21C-21      Inspection Date: April 19, 2022  
Complainant:                                      Thomas Elfmont  
Perennial Stream:                                Place Creek

**4. Emergency Applications:**

**5. Other 310 Business:**

a. Application Number: GD 23-21      Inspection Date: March 9, 2021  
Applicant:                                         Mark Schneiter  
Landowner:                                        same  
Contractor/Agent:                              Mace Mangold, PE  
Perennial Stream:                                Gallatin River  
Type of Project:                                 Bank stabilization/alteration  
Purpose:    To reinforce and extend existing riprap bank stabilization material in order to prevent loss of property and infrastructure (e.g.- house, garage/barn, storage sheds, parking area, county road, overhead power).  
  
Proposed Construction Date:                Start date: 8/20/2021                          Finish date: 8/30/2021  
Inspection Recommendation:                ***Recommend that the 100-year design as originally submitted (GD 14-21) be approved for the reduced 160 feet length of bank as shown on Sheet 1 of 2 (Medium and High-Risk areas).***  
  
Inspection Comments:                         From Mike Rotar: The applicant has reduced the proposed length of the bank treatment to 160 feet from a previous proposed length of 260 feet. Additionally, the applicant has proposed a secondary design that shows riprap extending to the 25-year flood event level, while still recommending that the original bank stabilization design (100-year riprap height) be permitted. Due to the channel being quite wide at the project location, and as shown on Sheet 2 of 2 in the permit application drawings, the estimated difference in the 25-year and 100-year flood elevations is only 1 foot (4271' vs. 4272').  
  
Given this nominal difference in proposed riprap height and taking into consideration the 100' reduction in proposed treatment length, as well as the existing presence of riprap on the subject bank remaining from a previous stabilization effort, ***I recommend that the 100-year design as originally submitted be approved***



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*for the reduced 160 feet length of bank as shown on Sheet 1 of 2 (Medium and High-Risk areas).*

Discussion:

Continuation of last month's discussion. Buddy wishes Karen Boyd was involved. Does not think the road is going to be wiped out, but Buddy thinks the issues were addressed from last month in the revised application and thinks it is not worth the fight. Applicant states that, in some settings, riprap is a necessary evil. Tammy is not happy with the rip rap, but understands that in this instance, it is necessary. Appreciation expressed from the board of the willingness to work with the revision.

Decision:

Sherwin Leep motioned to support as modified. Tammy Swinney supported. 15-day waiver included. All in favor. Motion carries.

UPDATE (4/2022):

Extension requested. Construction has not been able to start due to other agency permits needed. Floodplain and USACE permits have now been obtained, but need 310 extension.

a. **Jurisdictional Determination- None**

6. **310 Old Business:**

7. **Public Comments on District 310 Permitting Business**

8. **Adjournment of 310 Meeting**

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**BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA-**

1. Guests & Public Comments on District Business Meeting-
  - a. Jamie McEvoy, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Geography, Montana State University,  
Department of Earth Sciences
    - i. Requests letter of support for grant funding to assess the potential for beaver mimicry to function as a form of natural storage for municipal water supply.
2. Grants/Agreements/Contract Report - See Spreadsheet
  - a. Area 6 Pollinator Grant
3. Cost-share Program:
4. Well-Testing Cost-share Program:
  - a. WTCS-03-22 Bauer
5. Consensus Agenda
  - a. March Meeting Minutes-
  - b. Excused Absence of board members
6. NRCS
  - a. Report
  - b. Civil Rights Training- collect signatures
  - c. Cooperative Working Agreement- collect signatures
7. Supervisor Report: Planning Boards
  - a. Planning board- Manhattan-
  - b. County Planning Board-
  - c. GLWQD-
  - d. MACD update
    - i. MRCDC Fort Peck Test Flow Resolution
    - ii.
  - e. DNRC Update-

8. Staff Reports

- a. Administrator's Report- Becky
- b. NRS Report- Elizabeth
- c. Education and Outreach Director- Sydney
- d. Education Specialist Report- Leia
- e. BSWC Report- Gillian

9. Old Business

- a. Professional Development Training through MSU Extension
  - i. 1/9/23- room block for overnight accommodations. Must be finalized 12/10/22.
  - ii. Workshop will take place on 1/10/23. Hours- TBA
  - iii. Breakfast (continental style), lunch, refreshments provided.
    - 1. Dietary restrictions?
- b. MACD Resolutions
- c. Area Meeting
  - i. Agenda
  - ii. Speakers
  - iii. Registration
  - iv. Food/Catering
- d. 2022 Convention
  - i. Major details to be worked on at upcoming planning meeting:
    - 1. Keynote/external speakers
      - a. Gilly Presentation
    - 2. Overall theme
      - a. Focus on the Future
    - 3. Planning engagement for legislators, gov's office, and agency directors
    - 4. Standing time meetings moving forward
- e. REALTOR Workshop – GCD representative
- f. Other old business?

10. New Business

- a. Scholarship applicants
- b. Rolling Rivers Trailer Storage
- c. Other new business?

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11. CD Seminars/Workshops:
  - a. Adult Workshop Series
    - i. April 20- Pollinators
    - ii. May 18- Food Waste
    - iii. June 15- Stream Ecology
  - b. Earth Day Celebration- April 18 in EOC, various county wide other events during the week of 4/18-4/22.
  - c. Pollinator Workshop by Gillian- 4/28
  - d. Farm Fair- GCD booth – Pollinators- May 10-12
  - e. REALTOR 310/Regulatory Workshop- May 24
12. Parking Lot
  - a. Audit
  - b. Edging in the garden
  - c. Conference Room electrical upgrade
  - d. Soundproofing Office Space(s)
  - e. QuickBooks revamp- Dellinger will help us! End of April.
  - f. Property Management Company
13. Accounting (Deposit, Credit Card, Invoices) + Updated P&L, Balance Sheet
14. Adjournment of Business Meeting