

June 20, 2024
4:00pm

GALLATIN CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Topic: GCD June Board Meeting
Time: June 20, 2024 • 4:00 pm Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Meeting Location: GCD Conference Room- 120 S. 5th Street, Suite B102- Manhattan, MT

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85918554634?pwd=VjAzUU5Zd0hBL1hlbU9xVzZOcmo5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 859 1855 4634

Passcode: 227859

Call in: +1 253 215 8782

310 MEETING AGENDA

1. Meeting Called to Order

310 Inspection Reports: Ready for Discussion and Board Decision

a	Applicant Number: GD 39-24	Perennial Stream:	Dry Creek
	Applicant	Gus Holcomb	
	Landowner:	Gus Holcomb	
	Contractor/Agent:		
	Type of Project:	Road/Crossing	
	Purpose:	A replacement bridge engineered to county specifications (HL-93) is proposed as a replacement for the pre-existing ranch bridge. The replacement bridge will be 10 ' longer and placed on a proper above-ground foundation. The resulting bridge will allow the minimal intrusion currently present on the stream bank to be restored to its natural state.	
	Proposed Construction Date:	Start Date: 06/24/24	End Date: 7/24/24
	Inspection Date:	6/13/24	
	Inspection Recommendation:	Approval as Proposed	
	Inspection Comments:	No issues with bridge plan. New bridge will increase free board and increase span length over the creek. Bridge removal will be minimal disturbance to banks as bridge is sitting on unburied rail ties	
	318 Authorization Complete	Yes	
	Discussion:		
	Decision:		
b	Applicant Number: GD 16-24	Perennial Stream:	Gallatin River
	Applicant	Kaiser Real Estate West, LLC	
	Landowner:	Kaiser Real Estate West, LLC	
	Contractor/Agent:	Shedhorn Services	
	Type of Project:	Channel/Banks	

Purpose:	This project proposes to add riprap bank stabilization material along approximately 200 linear feet of streambank. The original riprap has 'thinned' due to scouring and/or portions lost due to flanking during high flow events.	
Proposed Construction Date:	Start Date:	End Date:
Inspection Date:	3/13/24	
Inspection Recommendation:	Board Discussion	
Inspection Comments:	Random rock placement (maintenance) vs. blanket riprap	
318 Authorization Complete	Yes	
March 2024 Discussion:	<p>Blanket rip rap is proposed. Already rip rap in there, and no real threat of mass erosion. Angle of the bend has lessened over the years. Buddy thinks some placement might be good, but not blanket. Open grassy area behind the bank, no infrastructure. Doesn't support the proposal of blanket rip rap. Wants to maintain the riprap that was placed earlier. Don't want to lose anymore of the bank and rock that they've previously placed in 2011. Mike comments that it doesn't seem like the stream is putting that much pressure on the bank right there. Concerned that if they don't maintain it, the situation is just going to get worse and then will have to consider a barb or something more intrusive. Buddy states that placing rock often times will pull the water over the site where the rock is placed. Just don't see a reason to try to alter the course of the river, in the absence of infrastructure. Mace states that because the riprap has moved, shows that there actually is pressure on that corner. Wants to salvage the historic riprap efforts so that it is not all for not. Will utilize the existing (failed) riprap, which will just wash away if not reused. Member of the public states that he lives near the Kaiser ranch and mentioned that they have a beautiful property and are stewards of the land. Tammy wonders if they could reroute the road. The riprap near the road is fine, it's 200' beyond the road is what is being considered. Buddy doesn't mind the scoured part, but the 200' is overkill. App is for blanket riprap. If they want to just "patch" it, the applications needs to be quantified- amounts and where to place. There has been precedence set regarding blanket riprap, and doesn't think this should be allowable based on that. .</p>	
March 2024 Decision:	Mike thinks it should be put on hold and new plans with more quantities where and how much. Bob motioned; Tammy supported. All in favor, motion carried	
June Discussion		
June Decision		

c Applicant Number:	GD 40-24	Perennial Stream:	East Gallatin River/ Pond
Applicant	Nick Faldo		

Landowner:	
Contractor/Agent:	Urbani Fisheries
Type of Project:	Other: wetlands/ponds
Purpose:	This project aims to enhance and deepen an existing pond, create wetland banks/benches surrounding the pond, install an outflow structure, and build a recirculating stream to provide habitat for waterfowl and other species. The result will be a system that requires minimal maintenance, while still improving upon the habitat and increasing the biodiversity in the area
Proposed Construction Dates:	Start Date: 9/1/24 End Date: 10/1/24
Inspection Date:	6/13/24
Inspection Recommendation:	Approval as Proposed
Inspection Comments:	Project for existing pond modification. Small spring on upper end of pond that will not be altered during construction. Agri drain will separate two existing ponds. Likely no jurisdiction over the work but no issues with the proposed work.
318 Authorization Complete	Yes
Discussion:	
Decision:	

d	Applicant Number: GD 41-24	Perennial Stream:	Willow Creek
Applicant		Mark Portman	
Landowner:		Alan and Kathryn Potts	
Contractor/Agent:		Rowe Excavation	
Type of Project:		Agriculture and Irrigation Projects	
Purpose:		Removal of sediment buildup in front of the Irish Slough diversion head gate. Ability to relocate existing blocks within the stream to more efficiently divert water. Details of work can be described by Kelly Rowe, of Rowe Excavation. Contact listed above.	
Proposed Construction Dates:		Start Date: 7/1/24	End Date: 10/1/24
Inspection Date:		6/13/24	
Inspection Recommendation:		Approval as Proposed	
Inspection Comments:		Remove sediment build up above head gate. Blocks in stream need to be removed in the fall and not left in stream as they have been in past. Place all spoils out of floodplain. Recommend maintenance permit. May need to be emergency work if ditch runs dry in next week.	

318 Authorization Complete Yes

Discussion:

Decision:

e	Applicant Number: GD 42-24	Perennial Stream:	Gallatin River
	Applicant	Rebecca Carroll	
	Landowner:	Rebecca Carroll	
	Contractor/Agent:	H&H Earthworks	
	Type of Project:	Road/Crossing	
	Purpose:	Property owner proposes the installation of a bridge to provide a crossing which minimizes damage to the natural riparian zone and channel banks. Owner intends to install the bridge deck in the same location the unpermitted culverts were removed from, which has been used for decades as the crossing access point for the pasture. Concrete deadman and cable will anchor the bridge to help prevent erosion, deterioration and contamination of the channel.	
	Proposed Construction Dates:	Start Date: 7/1/24	End Date: 11/1/24
	Inspection Date:	6/13/24	
	Inspection Recommendation:	Approval as Proposed	
	Inspection Comments:	33 span bridge over creek that had previous culverts removed. Span will be terrace to terrace though it's a low lying area. Small excavation for abutments but minimal work and spoils to be placed outside of floodplain. Seed any disturbed areas when finished.	
	318 Authorization Complete	Yes	
	Discussion		
	Decision		

f	Applicant Number: GD 43-24	Perennial Stream:	Camp Creek
	Applicant	Lane Graham	
	Landowner:	SDDS III, LLC	
	Contractor	Headwaters Engineering	
	Type of Project:	Road/Crossing	
	Purpose:	The owner wishes to construct a new cabin and driveway on the property. The existing access road crosses Camp Creek in a low lying area that is impassable at high flows or when muddy.	

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Proposed Construction Dates:	Start Date: 7/15/24	End Date: 9/15/24
Inspection Date:	6/13/24	
Inspection Recommendation:	Approval as Proposed	
Inspection Comments:	Bridge crossing location is on stream bend but bridge has a very large span for the size of the creek. The span will allow for small migration without any impacts to abutments or bridge. Small trimming may be required on trees but recommended leaving all larger root systems in place.	
318 Authorization Complete:	Yes	
Discussion:		
Decision:		

Emergency Applications:

h Applicant Number: GD 03E-24	Perennial Stream: Limestone Creek
Applicant	Gallatin Valley Land Trust
Landowner:	Triple Tree Ranch Sub. HOA
Contractor/Agent:	
Nature of Emergency	Gallatin Valley Land Trust contracted with Bo Trails to perform rehabilitation and maintenance to existing trail structures, turnpikes, along the trail to protect a wetland area. The contractor was hired to remove deteriorating timbers in turnpikes, replace with new timbers and top the trail in between the timbers with additional crusher fines. The contractor is using machinery to perform the work and it was determined that it was unsafe for the machinery to drive across the existing trail bridge as originally planned. The contractor needed to add additional support underneath the bridge to brace the bridge stringers and prevent collapsing of the structure. The contractor would not be able to perform the work without crossing the bridge with the machinery.
Action Taken	The contractor placed 9 6x6 posts vertically underneath the three bridge stringers, totaling 3 posts per stringer. The posts were set vertically contacting the underside of the stringer and then either placed on the stream bank or on top of the stream bed. Initially the contractor was going to place a 6x6 running perpendicular to the stringers and with the flow of water. However, due to the discrepancy in elevation of the stream bed, it was determined that this would cause too much disruption of the stream bed. The contractor

instead, placed the 6x6 posts onto the ground/stream bank/stream bed. The contractor did not excavate any stream bed material. The contractor performed the work in two days and promptly removed the bracing.

Construction Date: 6/12/24

Inspection Date:

Inspection Recommendation:

Inspection Comments:

Discussion:

Decision:

Complaints

a	Applicant Number: GD 03C-24	Perennial Stream: East Dry Creek and Hyalite Creek
Complainant:	Briana Schultz	
Nature of Complaint	Two bridges have been installed (one on each waterway) without a permit.	
Verification of Alleged Violation:	Viewed bridge on East Dry Creek on 5/14 as driving by. Viewed second bridge on 5/16 while taking photos of first bridge ...	
Inspection Date:	6/13/24	
Inspection Recommendation:	Activity has been initiated on a perennial flowing stream without a valid permit.	
Inspection Comments:	Bridges were well designed and span the channel. Overflow channels are established and supported by culverts to flow through road. Recommend making sure vegetation gets reestablished where abutments were constructed. Board discussion and photo review.	
Discussion:		
Decision:		

b	Applicant Number: 04C-24	Perennial Stream: Gallatin River
Complainant:	Mike Duncan	
Nature of Complaint	On February 2, 2024, Mike Duncan was on a site visit at the Cameron Bridge FAS with other FWP staff. Mike noticed recently completed work around the headgate to the Stone-Weaver Ditch that included fill that was placed on both sides of	

	<p>the headgate. Maintenance staff for FWP noticed additional work that was completed sometime between February 2 and May 22, 2024. Users on the Stone-Weaver Ditch implicated Mike Boyland and Bud Satre in the unpermitted work, which was apparently pursued to irrigate their properties on Frank Road.</p> <p>Water users on the Stone-Weaver Ditch reached out to FWP on June 10, 2024 to notify them that the headgate is compromised and allowing water to flow into the ditch, which has users worried about the security of the headgate and ditch during high flows on the Gallatin River.</p>
Verification of Alleged Violation:	Mike Duncan and other FWP staff have visited the site several times and can attest to the work that has been completed.
Inspection Date:	6/13/24
Inspection Recommendation:	Activity has been initiated on a perennial flowing stream without a valid permit.
Inspection Comments:	Fill was placed in front of headgate to shut off flow to prevent flooding downstream that was occurring. Material was removed from top of bank to complete the work. Spoils placed on bank and need to be removed. Board discussion for future preventative action.
Discussion:	
Decision:	

Jurisdictional Determination

a	Applicant Number: 02JD-24	Waterbody:	South Cottonwood Creek
	Applicant	John Noreika	
	Landowner:		
	Contractor	Eocene Environmental Group Sub for NWE	
	Purpose:	There is a group of Cottonwood Saplings/ Suckers, originating from the stumps of previously removed trees next to the Creek. The trees are coming up directly beneath a high voltage overhead distribution power line. Most of the trees are within the right of way with some on MT Reclaimed Lumber's Property. We want to remove these trees before they interfere with the power lines to ensure safety and reliability.	

Proposed Action:	We would like to remove the above ground portions of these trees, and treat the resulting/existing stumps with an approved herbicide (Garlon 4) to prevent regrowth.
Inspection Date:	6/13/24
Inspection Recommendation:	Approval with Modification
Inspection Comments:	Cottonwoods are on jurisdictional bank. Recommend trimming trees and omitting the stump treatment
Discussion:	
Decision:	

b	Applicant Number: 03JD-24	Waterbody:	Horse Creek
	Applicant	Douglas Hamilton	
	Landowner:		
	Contractor	Christopher Scoones	
	Purpose:	To determine whether Horse Creek is a perennial stream	
	Proposed Action:	NA	
	Inspection Date:	6/13/24	
	Inspection Recommendation:	Board Discussion	
	Inspection Comments:	Board Discussion	
	Discussion:		
	Decision:		

Other 310 Business:

2. 310 Old Business:

- a. GD 02C-24: Update
- b. Recommendation to update the Model Rules for Implementing the 310 Law

3. 310 Coordinator's Report- Audra

4. Public Comments on District 310 Permitting Business

5. Adjournment of 310 Meeting

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA-

1. Guests & Public Comments on District Business Meeting-
 - a. Montana Beaver Conflict Resolution Program- Kyle Wonders, National Wildlife Federation
 - b. Water Course Commons- GWC/Collaborative
2. Grants/Agreements/Contract Report - See Spreadsheet
3. Cost-share Program:
 - a. Updates
4. Well-Testing Cost-share Program:
 - a. WTCS-19-24- Eliassen- \$119.25
5. Consensus Agenda
 - a. May Meeting Minutes-
 - b. Excused absence of board members-
6. NRCS
 - a. Report –
7. Supervisor Report: Planning Boards
 - a. Planning board- Manhattan-
 - b. County Planning Board-
 - c. GLWQD-
 - d. MACD Update-
 - e. Gallatin Watershed Collaborative-
 - f. DNRC Update- see report
8. Staff Reports
 - a. Administrator's Report- Becky
 - b. NRS Report- Elizabeth
 - c. Education and Outreach Director- Sydney
 - d. Education Specialist Report- Leia

9. Old Business
 - a. Governance Calendar - display on screen
 - b. Phones- DONE!!!
 - c. Incorporated Cities Represented- Three Forks, West Yellowstone, Manhattan:
 - i. Three Forks Council Meetings- 2nd Tuesdays, 6pm. Zoom available.
 1. Next Meeting- 7/9/2024
 - ii. West Yellowstone Council Meetings- First Tuesdays. Work sessions at 6pm, meeting at 7pm. Zoom available.
 1. Next Meeting-7/2/2024
 - iii. Manhattan Town Council Meetings- 2nd Thursdays- 7pm
 1. Next Meeting- 7/11/2024
 - d. Other old business?
10. New Business
 - a. DNRC recommendations from Spring Board Meeting
 - b. MMIA Update + resolution idea
 - i. Other resolutions?
 - c. Other new business?
11. Parking Lot
 - a. Permissive Mill- MMIA
 - b. Conference room electrical update
12. Accounting (Deposit, Credit Card, Invoices) + Updated P&L, Balance Sheet – Additional Materials
13. Adjournment of Business Meeting
14. Executive Session- NRCS
15. Executive Session- Personnel Committee