

Call to Order: 401

Supervisors Present: Tammy Swinney, Briana Schultz, Mike Hansen, Bob Logar, Loren Blanksma, Sherwin Leep, Jason Camp

Supervisors Absent:

Staff present: Becky Clements, Elizabeth Emeline, Bea McNamara, Audra Bell, Leia Miller

Guests Present: Chris Mahoney (NRCS), Mike Rotar (RESPEC/GCD), Keith Wellstone (FWP), Mike & Janine Schwahn (GD 42-25), Walker Weed (GD 54-25), Amber & Dave Hargrove, Harley Harris (GWT), Roger Nerlin, Jack Roadarmal, Terry Schaplin (attorney)

Zoom attendees: Claire Kirk, Dylan Eve, Scott Gillian, Eric Wegren (AESI), Jeremy May, H. Roadarmel, Jeff Pfeil

310 MEETING AGENDA

310 Applications

Applicant Number:	GD 42-25	Perennial Stream:	Gallatin River
Applicant	Michael Schwahn		
Landowner:	Michael Schwahn		
Contractor/Agent:			
Type of Project:	Channel/Banks		
Purpose:	Protect property from flooding and erosion, placing rip rap along 300 ft of bankline.		
Proposed Construction Date:	Start Date: 4/1/26	End Date: 4/7/26	
Inspection Date:	9/11/25		
Inspection Recommendation	Approval with modifications		
Inspection Comment	Recommend placing riprap only to bankfull elevation, with bioengineered treatment above the riprap (soil, vegetation, geofabrics) at a 2:1 slope. Woody debris that has fallen into river and anchored to bank can be incorporated into the upper bank. Discuss timing at meeting, applicants still waiting on 404 and floodplain. FWP prefers march construction.		
318 Authorization	Ask FWP		
Discussion:	Downstream of Amsterdam road. Stabilize 300' of bank. Bank has eroded during high flows the last few years. Trees have fallen into the channel the last couple of years. He has removed them and anchored them (which is a violation). Looking for a more long term solution. River has changed course. The trees had been anchoring the bank. Now that they have fallen in, stabilization methods are needed. Scale back rip rap to bankful. Sloping back the bankline to a 2:1 ratio and add vegetation. Applicant still waiting for 404 and floodplain FWP would like to see the project completed in March. House is approximately 100' from bank. High water is approximately 12-14" from the top of bank. Discussion about flow regimes. Lost 20' of bankline this past year. Upstream of old railroad grade, which has been causing lots of problems in this stretch on the opposite side. Would not like to see full height rip rap. Bigger willow clumps would help add some roughness and take pressure off bank. 1' down from the top. 2:1 slope. Willows into the rip rap. 15-16 Cottonwoods fell into the creek.		

Decision: Mike Hansen motions to acknowledge violation has occurred. Mitigation is not necessary. Bob Logar seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Mike Hansen motions to approve with modification to preserve top foot of bank for grading. Work to incorporate willows to the highest degree possible. Briana Schultz supports. All in favor. Motion carried.

Applicant Number:	GD 53-25	Perennial Stream:	Meadow Creek
Applicant	Claire Kirk		
Landowner:	Samuel Thompson		
Contractor/Agent:			
Type of Project:	Other		
Purpose:	The project will lower the water level in the beaver pond by 1 ft to prevent flooding of a nearby road and driveway. We will install a pond leveler device to lower the water levels in the beaver pond.		
Proposed Construction Date:	Start Date: 9/15/25	End Date:	10/31/25
Inspection Date:	9/11/25		
Inspection Recommendation	Approval as proposed		
Inspection Comment	Pond leveler installation to reduce beaver pond elevation and alleviate road flooding. Structure will be assembled on site and placed in the stream by hand. T posts will be used to secure the structure in place. Exclusion structure installed in 2024 is holding up well. Landowner will maintain the structure.		
318 Authorization	yes		
Discussion:	Beaver complex in the area. Exclusion device was approved last year. Pond leveler on the downside end of the culvert. Notch beaver dam to lower elevation. Trying to mitigate water flowing over the road. Proposal to construct outside of water and then place in water installed with t-posts. All work will be done by hand.		
Decision:	Bob Logar motions to approve as proposed with 15 day waiver. Sherwin Leep supports. All in favor, motion carried.		

Applicant Number:	GD 54-25	Perennial Stream:	Ross Creek
Applicant	Walker Ten Eyck Weed 111		
Landowner:			
Contractor/Agent:			
Type of Project:			
Purpose:	A small precast concrete diversion structure will be placed along the north bank of Ross Creek to direct irrigation water into a 15" pipe leading to a bubbler screen cleaning system 80' downstream on the north bank and below the original diversion point. The 15" supply pipe will be above ground on the north bank. Excess water from the bubbler screen will be returned to the stream with a 15" pipe discharge onto boulder/ rocks to prevent erosion.		
Proposed Construction Date:	Start Date: 9/15/25	End Date:	

Inspection Date: 9/11/25
Inspection Recommendation: On hold
Inspection Comment: If vegetation is removed, salvage riparian root wads and transplant in disturbed areas. Would like to see more detailed designs for the diversion box; concerns with longevity of proposed designs. Need information on scour depths where footings or bottom of box will be placed. Also would like to see better information on dewatering plan. Recommend putting on hold until new information is received.
318 Authorization: Ask FWP
Discussion: Diversion wanted on Ross Creek to a bubbler then divert water. Level of detail is pretty basic and would like to see more detail. Want to see project last. Applicant provided more plans. Reviewed. Dewatering was suggested. Applicant has another idea to dewater, which would also work. Sandbags could be used to hold the pipes in place while they work. Scale of new plans. Wondering if he's working with NRCS. Mike advises it would be helpful to have NRCS review the plans. Chris says he's not sure their engineers have the time, but could try. Plans provided are headed in a good direction, but Mike would like to see more analysis. Location is steep and carries a lot of flow. Want to make sure this project has longevity. Applicant would like to start in the spring. Mike advises to keep on hold.
Decision: Mike Hansen motions to approve as proposed. With a recommendation to consult an engineer to see if the project would work. NRCS to assist. Scour depth under the footing. Sherwin Leep supports. 15 day waiver. All in favor, motion carried.

Applicant Number:	GD 55-25	Perennial Stream:	Bozeman Creek
Applicant	Stephen Singer		
Landowner:	Matt McCune		
Contractor/Agent:			
Type of Project:	Channel/ Banks		
Purpose:	I plan to use a 90 ton crane to remove 8 cottonwood trees as to not further impact vegetation surrounding the trees. Material will be processed and hauled away.		
Proposed Construction Date:	Start Date: 10/17/25	End Date: 10/18/25	
Inspection Date:	9/11/25		
Inspection Recommendation	Approval as proposed		
Inspection Comment	Proactive project to remove portions of a few tall trees to reduce potential liability of falling trees damaging property or injuring persons. Recommend leaving stumps in place to retain bank integrity. The crane will operate from the parking lot and avoid any impacts to the street corridor.		
318 Authorization	Ask FWP		
Discussion:	Getting out ahead of a potential issue down the line. Well vegetated area. Wouldn't remove all the trees. Keep rootwads in place to maintain bank integrity. A 90 ton crane to be used. Won't enter the creek. Chest height stump will be left.		

Decision: Bob Logar motions to approve as proposed. Briana Schultz supported. All in favor, motion carried. 15 day waiver included.

Applicant Number:	GD 56-25	Perennial Stream:	Unnamed Diversion off of Horse Creek
Applicant	Eric Wegren		
Landowner:	Marlene Phillips- Daniels		
Contractor/Agent:			
Type of Project:	Agriculture and irrigation		
Purpose:	AESI has selected a Parshall flume as the appropriate flow measurement device for this ditch. The purpose of this project is to install said flume.		
Proposed Construction Date:	Start Date: 9/29/25	End Date:	9/30/25
Inspection Date:	9/11/25		
Inspection Recommendation	Approval as proposed		
Inspection Comment	Proposed flume off horse creek. The flume will be placed in existing ditch off the channel. The headgate will be moved up from its current location in the ditch ~ 4 ft to the ditch-horse creek confluence.		
318 Authorization	yes		
Discussion:	Small tributary off of Horse Creek. Headgate structure will be pushed up to the mouth of horse keep and install a flume to better monitor/measure. Small flow right through there. Flow measuring device is court ordered through there, so will be installed.		
Decision:	Mike Hansen motions to grant approval with a 15 day waiver. Briana Schultz supported. All in favor, motion carried.		

Applicant Number:	GD 57-25	Perennial Stream:	Green Canyon Creek
Applicant	Jeremy May		
Landowner:	Ali Behnam		
Contractor/Agent:	Miller Recreational Development		
Type of Project:	Agricultural and irrigation		
Purpose:	The proposed plan is to lay back the existing bank slopes in the location of the access points, and install a compacted gravel layer that is less susceptible to erosion from cattle traffic. The area will be stripped of vegetation and excavated down to 15 inches below finished ground, then filled with 15 inches of 6" minus gravels. The areas will be fully enclosed with fencing to prohibit cattle from traveling through the stream corridor.		
Proposed Construction Date:	Start Date: 10/15/25	End Date:	7/15/26
Inspection Date:	9/11/25		
Inspection Recommendation	Approval as proposed		
Inspection Comment	Proposed crossings will provide designated locations for cattle to access water.		
318 Authorization	Ask FWP		

Discussion: Hardened cattle crossing. No issue, good location. Scott Opitz was consulted. No concerns except for the 20' wide crossing, but otherwise no issues. Keep cattle out of water is the goal.

Decision: Sherwin Leep motions to grant approval as proposed with 15 day waiver. Jason Camp seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Applicant Number:	GD 58-25	Perennial Stream:	Section Line Ditch
Applicant	Sanbell		
Landowner:	City of Bozeman		
Contractor/Agent:			
Type of Project:	Crossing/Roads		
Purpose:	The project includes the construction of a new roadway corridor to connect Oak Street to Durston Road. Within the project two new roundabouts will be constructed, one at the intersection of Fowler Avenue and Durston Road, and another at Fowler Avenue and Annie Street.		
Proposed Construction Date:	Start Date:	Summer 2026	End Date: Summer 2027
Inspection Date:	9/11/25		
Inspection Recommendation			
Inspection Comment	Board Discussion		
318 Authorization	Ask FWP		
Discussion:	City of Bozeman sponsored project. FWP received 124 application for this project. Keith advised this is a 124 permit and does not fall into GCD jurisdiction.		
Decision:	Mike Hansen motions to acknowledge this is FWP jurisdiction, not 310. Briana Schultz supported. All in favor, motion carried.		

Applicant Number:	GD 59-25	Perennial Stream:	Flathead Creek
Applicant	Jeremy May		
Landowner:	Ali Behnam		
Contractor/Agent:	Miller Recreational Development		
Type of Project:	Crossing/roads Channel/banks		
Purpose:	Brush matrix bank lines will be constructed in the areas of eroding bank lines. Banks will be shaped with on-site gravels, and graded in a manner to better withstand higher flows. Willows will be harvested nearby and set in the gravel banks. Work will be conducted from outside the banks as much as possible. Some existing material piles near the banks will be removed from the floodplain during bank repair work. Said piles will be hauled to areas outside the riparian corridor.		
Proposed Construction Date:	Start Date:	10/15/25	End Date: 7/15/26
Inspection Date:	9/11/25		
Inspection Recommendation	Approval as proposed		

Inspection Comment Proposed bank stabilization treatments will reduce sediment loading to creek. Proposed bridge crossing is in good location and adequately spans creek.

318 Authorization Ask FWP

Discussion: Bank stabilization along outside bend. Onsite gravels will be utilized. Will use willows that are plentiful onsite. Removal of debris from flooding control measure historic will also be removed. Bridge also proposed. Good location for the bridge. Question of jurisdiction of the bridge. Due to previous violations in the area, applicant is just applying for permits for everything to make sure they're covered. Also included some previously permitted project details in this app as that application is expired.

Decision: Bob Logar motions to approve as proposed with inspection details. Bridge is non jurisdictional, so those portions don't need approval. Mike Hansen supported. All in favor, motion carried.

Applicant Number:	GD 60-25	Perennial Stream:	Unnamed Tributary to Gallatin River
Applicant	Jeff Pfeil/		
Landowner:	Jeff Pfeil		
Contractor/Agent:			
Type of Project:	Building/structure		
Purpose:	The purpose of the project is to remove an old cabin that has begun to fall apart and is no longer safe. The cabin is in close proximity to the mouth of the spring. The west 5' is a stick framed addition to the cabin and the only portion in close proximity of the spring. This addition will be braced while the cabin is deconstructed so the components may be re-used. Once the cabin components have been salvaged the west addition will be collapsed away from the mouth of the spring so as not to enter the mouth of the spring in any way.		
Proposed Construction Date:	Start Date:	10/1/25	End Date: 10/31/25
Inspection Date:	9/11/25		
Inspection Recommendation	Approval as proposed		
Inspection Comment	Removal of old structure near spring head. The structure will be disassembled and usable material will be salvaged. All unused material will be hauled off site. Spring will be avoided with all equipment.		
318 Authorization	yes		
Discussion:	Structure is close to the spring head that was determined to be jurisdictional. Not anticipated to have any impacts to the spring.		
Decision:	Mike Hansen motioned to approve with 15 day waiver. Jason Camp supported. All in favor, motion carried.		

Applicant Number:	GD 61-25	Perennial Stream:	Unnamed Spring
Applicant	Gaston Engineering and Surveying		
Landowner:	Greg Balelo		
Contractor/Agent:			

Type of Project: Crossing /Roads
Purpose: The purpose of this project is to convey wastewater from a single family residence to an on site treatment system located on a bench that is adjacent to the building area.
Proposed Construction Date: **Start Date:** 9/20/25 **End Date:** 9/21/25
Inspection Date: 8/7/24
Inspection Recommendation Approval with Modification
Inspection Comment Install pipeline for water and sewer min 3' below stream, we appreciate the lined sewer pipe 50' both sides as proposed. Modification to pump around for diversion while trench cut installation. Pump should have screened intake with max 1/4" opening for this one day installation.
318 Authorization Yes
Discussion: This is a resubmittal from an expired project.
Decision: Mike Hansen motions to grant final approval with inspection comments. Loren Blanksma supports. 15 day waiver. All in favor, motion carried.

Emergency Applications

Applicant Number	GD 07E-25	Perennial Stream:	Gallatin River
	Applicant	Matt Flynn	
	Landowner:		
	Contractor/Agent:		
	Nature of Emergency	The channel leading to our headgate was almost dry. I walked up the channel and found a big beaver dam.	
	Action Taken	I used a tractor with a grapple and from the bank of the channel, reached out and remove the dam	
	Construction Date:	8/14/25	
	Inspection Date:	8/14/25	
	Inspection Recommendation:		
	Inspection Comments:	Board Discussion	
	Discussion:	Emergency application from last month. Continuation of that- removal of the beaver dam that is causing the problem.	
	Decision:	Bob Logar motions to acknowledge. Jason Camp supported. All in favor, motion carried.	

Complaints

Extension Request

Applicant Number:	GD 57-24	Perennial Stream:	Farmers Canal/ South Cottonwood Creek
Applicant	Dan Triemstra		
Landowner:	Jodi Petty		
Contractor/Agent:	WWC Engineering		
Type of Project:	Agricultural & Irrigation		
Purpose:	The purpose of the project is to replace an aging concrete headgate structure. The Cottonwood Headgate Structure balances flows between South Cottonwood Creek and Farmers Canal.		
Proposed Construction Date:	Start Date:	9/1/25	End Date: 11/30/25
Inspection Date:	9/10/24		
Inspection Recommendation:	Approval with Modifications		
2024 Inspection Comments:	Phase 2 cuts off all flow to Cottonwood. Would like to see different alternatives to keep flow in Cottonwood during headgate construction. Engineer to provide alt plan for approval by CD.		
318 Authorization Issued?	Yes		
2024 Discussion:	Irrigation structure on Farmers Canal. Only issue is the dewatering of Cottonwood Creek during the construction phase of the project. A subsequent design has been provided to keep water in the creek. The provided design has given adequate room to work around there. Engineer has looked at the grades to ensure minimal disturbance on the bank lines and vegetation. Project will be during the fall of next year. Permit will have to be extended, but for timelines and hiring a contractor, permits have to be acquired. FWP approves this realignment to keep water in the channel.		
2024 Decision:	Bob Logar motions to approve with modification provided Tammy Swinney supports. All in favor, motion carried.		
Extension Request Reason	Project not Started		
2025 Discussion:	Headgate replacement. Still irrigating. So can't start until mid-October. Same modifications for the bypass. Won't dewater cottonwood creek.		
2025 Decision:	Bob Logar motions to approve a 1 year extension with a 15 day waiver. Sherwin supported. All in favor, motioned.		
Other 310 Business:			
New Business			
310 Old Business:			
	Staged rip-rap on Bridger Creek		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landowner came to the office to find out what he needed to do. He left the office with an application. 		

GD 47-25 Meeting

- Site Inspection yesterday (public meeting). Briana Schultz recuses. Mike states the field discussion from yesterday pointed to a sediment trap at the start of the project and the end of the project. Sediment retention structure on the ditch before its return to Rey Creek. Vast majority of sediment comes from the ditch. Need for design and detail on sediment traps on the creek and ditch. Mike motions to put on hold to be able to review at the Oct. meeting to review the design of the sediment retention structures. Mike commented that he was very impressed with Kelly Rowe in presenting the project. Loren supports the motion and the sentiment that the contractor was very well spoken in his presentation. Public comments will be accepted again once the new materials is submitted to see how we can quantitatively see the sediment going through the system. Hold can be up to 60 days. Landowners would like to see the contractor be bonded and project separated into multiple applications. This request is due to all the mess from the historic projects that were left for downstream landowners. Maintenance and project monitoring will be part of the permit for 3-5 years post construction. Mike states that bonding would be more likely from this board if it was a contractor that didn't have a good track record, which is not the case in this scenario. Mike thinks the meeting yesterday was extremely productive. Mike Duncan was requested to do a site visit to monitor where he had been the last few years. Irrigators also want a 3rd party to monitor the silt once this is approved. Landowner offered a site visit to see the downstream impacts from the previous impacts. Silt meters were discussed on site and seemed a good possibility. Mike Duncan has the history on this stretch. Would be nice to have him share his knowledge with the board. Briana (contractor hat), retention ponds have issues as well. They do not have the capacity to settle out fines with the retention time that is allowed here. Sediment ponds also heat up the water. How would we record the standards? Will it be a visual evaluation? Contractors have conducted a years worth of monitoring and FWP has extensive data on this system. Not a lot of sediment in the stretch they're working in. Briana and Kelly would be willing to conduct a site visit downstream to see what the conditions are. Pull bridge portion out to put on own application for that part to be approved individually. Scott Gillilan, project lead, comments on the monitoring results of their extensive efforts. Sediment loads are extremely high in that stream without any disturbance. Does not think anything they could do make the turbidity worse. Area ditches are contributing to this. Want to meet with the irrigators to establish baseline diversion site conditions. Hot Springs Creek, and Crowley Ditch contribute as well as a natural sediment coming through the creek system. Nothing proposed is going to diminish flows to downstream water users. Project lead says they are not intending any downstream impacts. Sediment ponds really don't settle out fines. Mike thinks consultants reconsider routing of Crowley ditch into Little Rey Creek. From a habitat standpoint, this would be great; However there may be issues with the water rights component. The neighboring landowner was not interested in this route. All in favor, motion carried. Irrigators offer to let the board come do site inspection any time to see the conditions that are the aftermath of the prior project. Audra reviewed Hailey's statute of limitations guidance. Doing investigation on historic project is allowable. Mike cautioned going the bond route.

310 Coordinator's Report- Audra

- AL request- approved.

Public Comments on District 310 Permitting Business

Adjournment of 310 Meeting - Bob Logar motions to adjourn at 6:05. Sherwin Leep supported. All in favor, motion carried.

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA**Guests & Public Comments on District Business Meeting-**

Jeff Dunn- WGM – update on water trust project the CD has sponsored. 101 sites are being monitored! Getting most complete picture of this ditch system as possible. DNRC encouraged them to apply for another grant cycle for project planning.

- Sponsorship Request- pursue additional grant for purchasing flow monitoring equipment. Develop outreach materials. Mapping. Urban/agriculture interface guidance. Hoping this project can also be used for other systems in the future.
- An annual class offered by the Conservation District covering topics such as 310 permitting, AGAI, and Section 404 regulations would be highly beneficial moving forward. With the rapid growth in the area and frequent changes in property ownership, this type of education could help prevent future conflicts and promote better understanding of regulatory requirements.
- Elizabeth says we need to be cautious with procurement due to the first grant sponsorship with this group. She has capacity. Will be a learning curve navigating the potential procurement issues.
- Bob Logar motions to approve the sponsorship request/MOU of partnership between the CD and water trust. Mike Hansen supports. Tammy Swinney recuses. All those in favor, motion carries.

Governance Calendar

- GCD Newsletter + Water Supply Outlook report out on 9/1.
- 941 Q3-2- 9/10/25
- Positive Pay to GC Treasury- 8/22/25
- Area 6 Meeting- 10/1/2025- Ennis
- August Meeting minutes sent 8/22/25 to DNRC+ C&R
- No Supervisor elections this year
- Employee evals – mid Oct

Cost Share Applications**Consensus Agenda**

- August Meeting Minutes – Bob Logar motions to approve August minutes + Rey Creek visit minutes. Loren Blanksma seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Briana recused.
- Excused Absence of Board Members – Jason excused from business meeting.

NRCS**Report-**

- Looking good regarding water year. No CSP renewals. Another 1.4\$ in the Camp/Godfry watershed.

Supervisor Report: Planning Boards

- Planning Board- Manhattan- no meeting

- County Planning Board- Rebecca- AGAI- potentially already going to these meetings. Loren will call Kerry for final confirmation. Bri will call Tony Thatcher. Loren is also thinking about picking it up. Rebecca would be last resort. Tony doesn't have an ag background. Loren will also give Walt a call. Sherwin will think of some names.
- GLWQD- No meeting
- MACD Update – Becca is now gone from MACD and Madi is filling in as Acting Executive Administrator. Interviews for the position have been conducted and a candidate has been selected. Waiting to announce until after the candidate gives notice to their current employer. Area meetings start next week. Area 6 has one resolution to be voted on.
- Gallatin Watershed Collaborative- next week
- DNRC Update- see report

Staff Reports

- a. Administrator - Becky -
- b. Natural Resource Specialist- Elizabeth – Farm fair grant done, Dry Creek and Highline will be finalized by the end of the month or so. Hebgen monitoring- several positive tests. AIS test have all been negative.
 - i. Grants/Agreements/Contract Report – see report.
- c. Education and Outreach Director- Bea
- d. Education Assistant – Leia-
- e. Rebecca- AGAI- Annual meeting 1/6.

Old Business

- 3DHP Mapping Project- grant application has been submitted. Lower Gallatin Watershed mapping to be completed with monies committed + matching grant funds, if awarded.
- Hot water heater – Couldn't be serviced, so was replaced. RCC apparently shares a water heater with GCD, so his water issue is now also fixed. water softener- cartridge. Get on servicing request to regularly service the unit.
- Other old business?

New Business

- o Area Meeting Attendance – October 1

- Area 6 GCD report
- Resolutions- input to Tammy for Area 6 resolution.
 - Last PM board meeting. October – May- 9am start time.
 - No November meeting!
 - Reinspection tour- November- 11/5. Harlow's bus service for transportation- Becky will inquire. Audra- looking for suggestions for projects.
 - County Planning Board representative/ Associate Supervisor
 - Convention- Tuesday Nov. 18-Thursday Nov. 20
 - Other new business?

Parking Lot

Professional Development- Over winter ideas
Historic documents – Organize

Accounting (Deposit, Credit Card, Invoices) + Updated P&L, Balance Sheet –
Becky to update board on “miscellaneous charges” on P&L statement. Mike Hansen motions to accept financials. Briana Schultz seconded.

Adjournment of Business Meeting- Sherwin Leep motioned to adjourn at 8:17pm, Briana Shultz seconded.

 _____ 10/16/25
Minutes approved by Date

Becky Clements _____ 10/9/2025
Minutes prepared by Date



310 Coordinator Report

Gallatin Conservation District

310 Business

10	New 310 Application	1	Emergency Application
0	Modification	0	Complaints
0	Extension Requests	0	Permits entered into Gilly
9	Site Inspections	0	Historic Digitized Permits

- Completed post meeting 310 documents for August meeting and pre meeting document for the September meeting.
 - Fielded questions and information related to the 310-application process.
 - Assisted with a new application and answered gilly questions.
 - Attended staff meetings
-
- Started School!
 - Leave: January 5th - January 12th

Water Year to Date of 9/18/2025 (Water year begins October 1-September 30)

Gallatin:	Sept, 90%	August, 86%
Madison:	Sept, 89%	August, 89%
Jefferson:	Sept, 95%	August, 92%
Yellowstone:	Sept, 95%	August, 88%

Programs; for 2025

EQIP: Tip; Animal confinement

-no applications

Bridger/Bangtails 2026; Forest health, fuels reduction

- 9 applications

RCPP; 2026; Properties on easements; program is currently out of money

-1 application

CSP 2026 Classic

-4 applications

CSP 2026 Renewal; (No more renewals; will be batched with regular csp)

-1 application

Community Agriculture 2026

-7 applications

Horseshoe Hills (TIP) 2026;

- 6 application

Rooting for Soil Health (TIP) Area wide

-None from Gallatin

NWQI; 2026

- 4 applications

Organic special initiative

-no applications

New TIP for improving grazing land health (north Bridgers)

- 1 application

-Practices

Watering facility, livestock pipeline, spring development, wells, brush management, prescribed grazing, fence, weed control

Groups (updates)

Watershed council/Water collaborative;

-none

Trout Unlimited;

-none

Extension:

-lots of sampling/post farm tour July 15

Fire Adapted (county):

-none

Stockgrowers:

-none

AGAI:

-annual meeting dates/speakers

Weed District:

-none

Events

Past;

-water infiltration demo MSU

Future;

-area 6 meeting; Ennis; 10/1/2025

Trainings

MISC

-no travel currently

-No IRA funded contracts this year

-Acting state Conservationist; Gayle Barry; Western Conservation Liason for NRCS Western Regional Office



Administrator's Report- September 18, 2025

Accounting

- Paid bills and taxes, PERS and payroll

Media

- Updates to Facebook and website.

Board Meeting

- Information, planning, organization for the September meeting. Agenda + August minutes prepped.

Other: Miscellaneous

- Weekly-ish staff meetings
- Positive Pay upload for May- 8/22/25
- ACH to GC Treasury
- Work with Audra on 310 tasks and procedures + Gilly
- 941- Q3-2- 9/9/25
- Reconcile all accounts
- Trail sign project collaboration with Elizabeth + artist
- Communications with Booster Club + media for ribbon cutting
- EOC Maintenance
- Manhattan Farmers Market – Wednesdays, weekly
- SNFMP administration
- Planning board communications with board members + floodplain administrator
- Workers comp claim opened
- Hot water heater service coordinated
- Public notice for special GCD meeting
- Area 6 report started
- Compost research + help with bin construction
- End of season communications with vendors
- Hannah's final timesheet + Leia's timesheet
- USGS/GWC financial validation form for donation
- TLC- notified to pick up unit rental

Discussion Items:

Meetings in Conference Room (scheduled):

- Booster Club – 9/24, 6pm
- MT Equine- Private Event, 10/2
- Soil Health Symposium Meeting- 10/10, 11am

Upcoming workshops/Meetings (attending):

- Farm to Table Dinner- 9/24, 5pm
- Area 6 Meeting- 10/1, 9-3

Grants: Closing Before the End of 2025 / Continuing into 2026 / Not yet finalized
(See attached Excel sheet for full grant overview. Below is a brief status summary.)

- **DNRC Mini Education Grant – Farm Fair:** Reimbursement received. Grant closed!
- **DNRC Area 6 Pollinator Initiative Grant:** Planning to submit the final report at the end of September, following monitoring by participants.
- **ARPA Dry Creek Irrigation Canal:** Awaiting reimbursement!
- **ARPA High Line Canal:** Reimbursement received! Working on final reporting!
- **ARPA Farmers Canal:** Reimbursement received, awaiting relief on contractor payment request. Construction will begin after the irrigation season.
- **DNRC Planning Grant (with Confluence):** Draft Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) is complete. Reimbursement request was submitted to DNRC. Awaiting reimbursement.
- **DNRC Watershed Management Grant (with AGAI):** See Rebecca Kurnick's report attached.
- **RDG Planning Grant Gallatin Valley Managed Aquifer Recharge:** WGM Group has been working on the field work for this project over this summer. Jeff at this meeting to give update.
- **CD Administrative Grant: MACD Dues & 2024 310 Permits:** Awarded.
- **RRGL Planning Grant Lower Creamery Ditch Diversion Project :** Submitted to DNRC.

***NEW* RDG Planning Grant Application - 2027 Biennium: Aquifer Recharge Study**

Cost Share Programs:

Well Testing Cost Share
Conservation Cost Share

No new applications!

Outreach:

Water Supply Report: The August 2025 Water Supply Report was completed, posted online, & distributed via email.

Manhattan to the Gallatin Trail: Trail sign installation soon & Ribbon Cutting on Monday September 22nd

Gallatin Pollinator Initiative: Lots of questions from folks, making lots of packets.

Monitoring: Hebgen Lake Harmful Algal Bloom: Testing positive at Rainbow Point since August 18th.

Events & Meetings Attended:

- Hebgen HABs – Every Monday
- Hebgen & Ennis AIS – Every other Monday
- MFM – Every Wednesday
- SET Training – 8/19-21
- Collaborative Call – 8/26
- AGAI Meeting – 8/28
- ARPA Eng Calls – 9/2, 9/16
- EO Roundtable – 9/17

Upcoming Events & Meetings:

- Hebgen HABs – Every Monday
- Hebgen & Ennis AIS – Every other Monday
- Ribbon Cutting for trail signs – 9/22
- Collaborative Call – 9/23
- AGAI Meeting – Cancelled in Sept.
- Area 6 MACD Meeting – 10/1
- Aquifer Recharge Call – 10/7
- ARPA Eng Calls – 9/23, 9/30, 10/14
- EO Roundtable – 9/17



Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Emeline | elizabeth@gallatincd.org

Grant Report | Gallatin Conservation District Board Meeting | October 2025

Grants	Funding Provided For:	Partners?	Date Approved	Total Amount Requested	Total Amount Funded	Grant Progress (Funds used or committed) (10/2025)	Current Amount spent or reimbursed by GCD (10/2025)	Final Amount Reimbursed to GCD	Final Report Submitted	Final Report Deadline
CDB Pollinator Grant (CDG-25-3825)	Area 6 Pollinator Seed	Beaverhead, Madison, Park, Jefferson CDs	9/19/2024	\$13,500.00	\$13,500.00	\$11,617.61	\$11,617.61		10/9/2025	12/31/2025
ARPA - Dry Creek Irrigation Canal Improvement Project (AC-22-0183)	Water quality improvement, Lining	Dry Creek, Gallatin County	12/16/2021	\$225,141.00	\$225,141.00	\$225,141.00	\$225,141.00		10/15/2025	12/31/2025
ARPA - High Line Canal Improvement Project (AC-22-0184)	Water quality improvement, Repairs & additional lining	High Line Canal, Gallatin County	12/16/2021	\$205,274.32	\$205,274.00	\$205,274.00	\$205,274.00		10/15/2025	12/31/2025
ARPA - South Cottonwood Headgate Rehabilitation (AC-22-0186)	Water quality improvement, Headgate rehab	Farmers Canal, Gallatin County	12/16/2021	\$184,000.00	\$184,000.00	\$41,545.34	\$41,545.34			12/31/2025
DNRC CARD RRRPG (RPG-24-0854)	Warm Springs Ranch, fish passage and Temp cons.	Confluence, WSR	3/21/2024	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00			12/31/2025
			Match from WSR	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00		
DNRC Watershed Planning Grant (WMG-24-0103)	Capacity for AGAI	AGAI	2/15/2024	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$14,560.00	\$8,560.00			12/31/2026
DRNG RDG - Managed Aquifer Recharge Network (RITP-25-0220)	Understand aquifer recharge along the Middle Creek irrigation ditch.	TU, GWT & Middle Creek Ditch Co.	4/17/2025	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00					12/31/2026
DNRC CD Admin Grant FY2026	Funding for MACD Dues		1/18/2025	\$14,300.00	\$14,300.00	\$14,300.00	\$14,300.00	\$14,300.00	Must wait until 2026	9/30/2026
DNRC DARD RRRPG	Lower Creamery Ditch Headgate	Lower Creamery Ditch	8/21/2025	\$30,000.00						
RDG Planning Grant	Aquifer Recharge Study	TU, GWT & Middle Creek Ditch Co.	9/18/2025	\$50,000.00						

Completed Grants	Completed Grants
Active Grants	Active Grants
Not yet finalized	Not yet finalized

Total Grant Funds:	\$782,215.00	\$537,437.95	\$531,437.95	\$24,300.00
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Bea McNamara
Staff Report: September 2025
Education & Outreach Director

Education

- Hosted a Natural Printmaking class in our garden space partnered with Tinworks Art (8/26): around 30 people in attendance from Bozeman and Manhattan!
- Hosted a Small Acreage tour with GrowWild (9/4): The class was full and we had 11 people in attendance.
- Big Timber Farm Fair (9/11): Sweetgrass conservation district reached out and I brought the Rolling rivers trailer for 6 presentations over the course of the day.
- Manhattan After School Program (9/15): Taught on plant nutrient cycling and brought in vegetables from the garden.
- Opt Out Garden Lessons (9/17 & 9/18): Hosted Opt-out school in our garden space for two lessons on nutrient cycling, photosynthesis, composting. We planted cover crops of radishes, peas and oats in our raised beds.

Outreach

- Manhattan Farmers Markets (9/3 & 9/10 2pm-7pm).
- Picked up pollinator posters from NRCS Public affairs specialist Lori Valadez (9/4).
- Met with NRCS about cover crops for our garden space (9/9).
- Picked up compost for our garden from Jen Mohlers place (9/16).
- Attended MACD EO meeting (9/17).

Office and Garden Work

- Prepared for the Manhattan Farmers Market education table.
- Maintained overall upkeep of the Education and Outreach center, weeding, picking produce, collecting seeds for next year. As well as reflecting on this summer's garden and how to better it for next season: stain shed, walking tiles, birdhouses, diversity of plants.
- Engaged and posted regularly on social media platforms for GCD webpages and MFM webpages. MFM basket raffle and "Market Bucks" raffle.
- Preparing for the Farm to Table Dinner on 9/24 by getting meat and vegetable vendors to donate. Promoting the dinner through MFM, social media, posters, online resources. We have 60 people reserved, and only 5 more available spots!
- Preparing for educational events by creating curriculum for the classes as well as looking for available curriculum online and through available resources.
- Planning for upcoming September and October programs: Small acreage tour (Sept 4th), Big Timber Farm fair with rolling rivers trailer (Sept 11th), Opt out garden lesson (Sept 17th and 18th), Farm to Table (Sept 24th), Tinworks pollinator presentation (Sept 27th), staff garden clean up (8/6 or 8/8), Pumpkin Party (Oct 10th),
- MFM wrap up: Reflecting on the Farmers Market season and looking at ways to promote for next season, as well as activities for the activity table for next season.

September 2025

There are plenty of Zucchini

little pumpkins and watermelons

and cucumbers!

It seems to have been a very good year for fruits, berries, & cherries. Our chokecherries & Nanking cherries lasted longer (there was plenty for the birds and kids)

Garden Clean Up as it goes...

- collecting seeds
- pulling weeds
- mowing
- composting!
- dead heading

Tomatoes are getting ripe!

We had the last 2 FARMERS MARKETS

It was bitter sweet. Our vendors and community said they would miss it!

A Garden Should Feel Like a Storybook You can Wander Through One Chapter At a Time.

Special guests at the last Market!

What is Hefting?

Hefting is the practice by which sheep learn to stay within a specific area of open, unfenced land without the need for physical boundaries.

It is a powerful metaphor for belonging —

To be hefted is to belong to a place so deeply that it shapes your movements and your instincts. In a age where rootlessness is common, hefting reminds us that deep connection to place — earned slowly, lived fully — is still possible! It teaches patience, care,

We are BEARING UP for the FARM TO TABLE EVENT Sept 25th! Are you coming?

I hope people feel "hefted" in our community... I do!

Grateful heria

**US Geological Survey
3D National Topography Model Data Collaboration Announcement
3D Hydrography Program**

3DHP-A: DCA Project Summary Form

Project Summary for the Collection of Elevation-Derived Hydrography Data for 3DHP

Instructions: Enter text or value as appropriate. Where prompted, hit TAB to register the entry and calculate values in other parts of the project summary form.

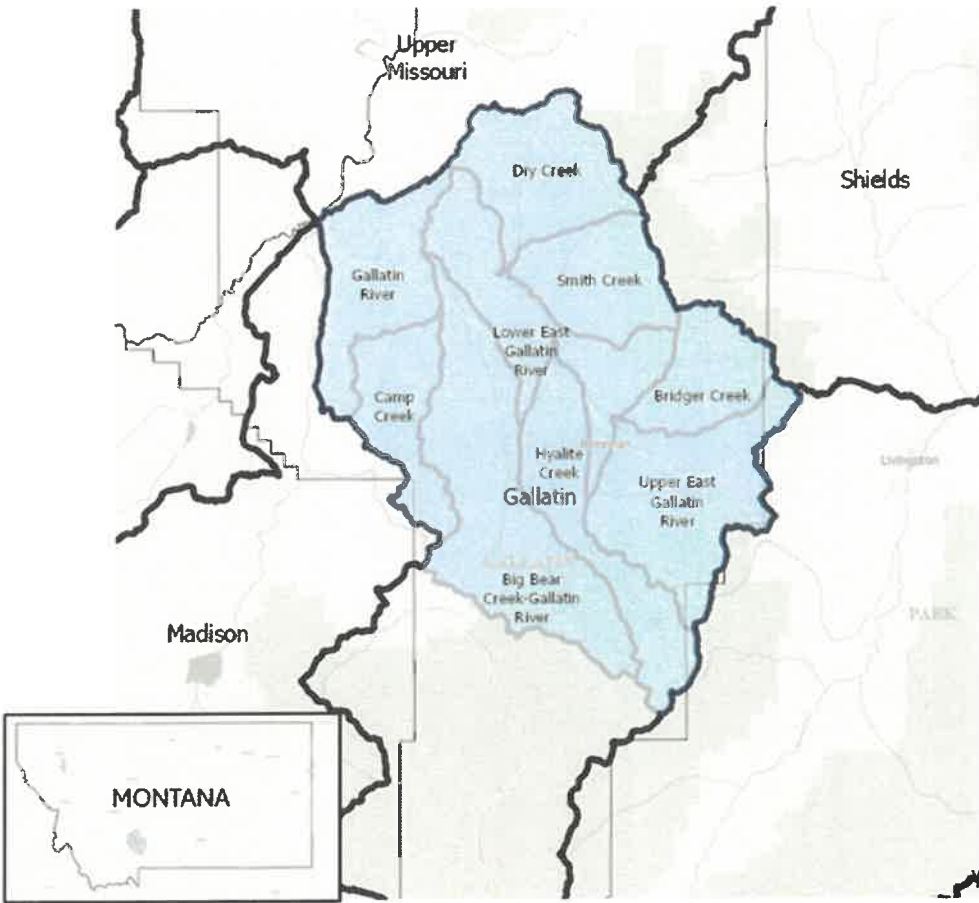
Organization: Montana State Library	Date: 9/3/2025
Organization Unique Entity Identifier: MMVUUTJNPD3 6	
First Name: Troy	Last Name: Blandford
Title: Water Information System Manager	
Street Address: 1201 11 th Avenue	
City: Helena	State: MT Zip Code: 59620
Email Address: tblandford@mt.gov	Phone: (406)444-7930
Additional Details or Clarifications: This application was coordinated with the Gallatin Watershed Council and other partners.	

Project Title: <small>300 characters maximum</small>	Montana 3DHP: Lower Gallatin River (nine HU10)
Project Summary: <small>3000 characters maximum</small>	<p>Please provide a summary of your project. Summary should include purpose and justification of the data acquisition submission and relationship of project to existing, in-work, or planned data acquisitions.</p> <p>Through the Montana Geospatial Information Advisory Council (MGIAC), the Montana State Library seeks to recognize 3DHP as the statewide standard for the Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) Hydrography Theme. This project will be one of the first 3DHP data acquisition efforts in Montana and provide a starting point for data development in southwest subbasins.</p> <p>Montana partners require detailed hydrography data for a variety of uses, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State GIS coordination at the Montana State Library ensures that investment in geospatial information endures and is further expanded, strengthened, and utilized in Montana. Developing one consistent, watershed-wide—and eventually statewide—dataset like 3DHP, accessible to all stakeholders and the public, is central to coordination efforts. -Gallatin County is one of the fastest-growing areas in the Northern Rockies, making accurate watercourse data essential for well-informed decisions. Mapping tools are

**US Geological Survey
3D National Topography Model Data Collaboration Announcement
3D Hydrography Program**

	<p>widely used by staff and the public, but outdated or inaccurate waterway data can lead to inadvertently approved projects that don't comply with watercourse setback requirements or that otherwise compromise the health of the watershed. This project will deliver reliable, detailed watercourse information to support decisions across departments.</p> <p>-The U.S Forest Service needs detailed, high-resolution hydrography data to manage national forest watersheds, fish and wildlife habitat, roads and culverts, and to inform forest plans. Elevation-derived hydrography is particularly pertinent to forested lands, since lidar reveals the picture beneath the trees.</p> <p>-The Gallatin Conservatin District administers the Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act. A 310 permit is needed for any activity that alters or modifies the bed or banks of a perennially flowing stream. Detailed hydrography data and its attribution helps inform these efforts.</p> <p>-The Gallatin Watershed Council and their many partners view updated watercourse mapping as foundational to enhancing and protecting water quality and availability. The Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators also seek detailed mapping to document canals and ditches and how water moves throughout the Gallatin.</p> <p>In addition to the partners identified on the application, federal agencies also prioritize the project area for 3DHP data development. The entire project area (plus the greater area) overlaps with the Consolidated Federal Priority Acquisition Areas. The National Park Service and the BLM have priority areas within the immediate surrounding watersheds.</p>
<p>Project Synopsis: 1000 characters maximum</p>	<p>The USGS releases a list of projects receiving funds from the 3DHP. Please provide a short synopsis of your project suitable for publication should your project be selected.</p> <p>Montana is pursuing modernization of the statewide hydrography dataset. This project will be one of the first 3DHP projects in Montana and provide a starting point for future data development in southwest subbasins. New watercourse mapping will be completed for approximately 1,000 square miles, covering nine watersheds (HU10s) of the Lower Gallatin River. Upon completion, one consistent watershed(s)-wide dataset will be available to all interested stakeholders, including State, County, City, watershed groups and the public, and will better inform decisions related to watercourse setback requirements, watershed health, and water movement throughout the valley. The project is supported by Gallatin County, the City of Bozeman, Montana State Library, U.S. Forest Service, Gallatin Conservation District, the Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators, and the Gallatin Watershed Council.</p>
<p><i>Acknowledgement required; please read and check box</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The applicant agrees to the release of this project summary should this project submission be selected.</p>

**US Geological Survey
3D National Topography Model Data Collaboration Announcement
3D Hydrography Program**

<p>Hydrography Case Studies: <i>Acknowledgement required; please read and check Yes or No</i></p>	<p>The USGS is interested in how recipients use elevation-derived hydrography data to support their mission or business objectives. If this project is selected, do you give permission for the USGS to contact you following project completion to ask questions about the utilization of the data.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Project Map:</p>	<p>Insert a jpeg or other picture by clicking on the center of the image box below or by using copy (CTRL-C)/paste (CTRL-V).</p> 

GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT OF PROJECT

**US Geological Survey
3D National Topography Model Data Collaboration Announcement
3D Hydrography Program**

PROJECT FINANCES

The cost of elevation-derived hydrography data acquisition varies based on geographic extent and terrain. This cost includes data acquisition, data processing, and vendor quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC). Applicants must include an ESTIMATED cost of their project using one of the following options:

- A project planning estimate from the USGS Geospatial Products and Services Contracts (GPSC) Commercial Partnership Team (refer to Form 3DHP-C)
- an estimate received from an elevation-derived hydrography data acquisition vendor
- an estimate from another source together with an explanation of how the estimate was obtained

The estimate should only include the cost of the acquisition and processing of hydrography data that meets the most current USGS Elevation-Derived Hydrography Data Acquisition Specification and READ rules (www.usgs.gov/3DHP/HydroSpecs). **The cost of any additional products and services should not be included in the 3DHP funding request.**


The USGS will complete an independent review during the evaluation period to determine if the proposed cost estimate reflects valid industry cost for the specific geographic area and reflects a good value to the government. **In addition to the data acquisition cost, applicants opting for data acquisition through the GPSC will be subject to a 6% assessment on the value of their financial contribution. This assessment covers the cost of contract management. The final cost of the project will include the data acquisition cost plus the assessment.** The project funding table below calculates the assessment automatically.

Estimated Cost over entire Project Area: <i>Select Only One Option</i>	<div style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The applicant is using a project planning estimate (Form 3DHP-C) received from the USGS Geospatial Products and Services (GPSC) Commercial Partnership Team to estimate elevation-derived hydrography data acquisition, processing, and vendor QA/QC costs </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> The applicant is using an estimate from an elevation-derived hydrography data acquisition vendor or an alternate figure to estimate project data acquisition, processing, and vendor QA/QC costs. Please provide explanation of how estimated cost was derived: _____ </div>
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The applicant should select only one option. If the applicant has been provided with a total ESTIMATED cost, use Option 1; if the applicant has a cost per square mile, use Option 2.

	Square miles	Cost per square mile	Total ESTIMATED Costs
Option 1: Provide Total Estimated Costs	1027	\$ 126.58	<u>\$130,000.00</u>
OR			
Option 2: Provide Cost Per Square Mile	1027	_____	\$ 0.00

Hit TAB to
complete
input

Proposed Funding						
Applicant shall enter the proposed funding partners, the amount each partner proposes to contribute to the project and the total funding available from partners. The applicant is also asked to provide the certainty of each partner's contribution. Each proposed funding partner must complete 3DHP-D: <i>Validation of Funding Partner</i> . All 3DHP-D forms shall be included as part of the submission package.						
 Project Approach:	GPSC	Total Estimated Project Cost (from previous page):		\$130,000.00		
Funding Partner(s)						
Name(s)	Type (Federal / Non-Federal)	Proposed Total Contribution	If Project Approach= GPSC, 6% Assessment	Amt to Hydrography Data Acquisition and Validation	Certainty of Contribution (Guaranteed, Pending)	If funding is 'Pending' (not yet guaranteed); note date (MMM YYYY) when funding decision will be final.
USFS	Federal	\$15,132.88	\$ 856.58	\$14,276.30	Guaranteed	
Gallatin Conservation District	Nonfederal	\$10,000.00	\$ 566.04	\$9,433.96	Guaranteed	
Montana State Library	Nonfederal	\$10,000.00	\$ 566.04	\$9,433.96	Pending	<12/31/2025
Gallatin County 911/GIS (15k)	Nonfederal	\$25,000.00	\$1,415.09	\$23,584.91	Guaranteed	
Gallatin County Planning Board (10k)	Nonfederal	\$10,000.00	\$ 566.04	\$9,433.96	Guaranteed	
Gallatin Watershed Council	Nonfederal	\$1,000.00	\$ 56.60	\$ 943.40	Guaranteed	
Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators	Nonfederal					
		Funding Partner Totals (from above)		\$67,106.49	52%	% Cost Share for 3DHP Base Data
		Funds Requested from 3DHP		\$62,893.51	48%	% Cost Share for 3DHP Base Data
Total Combined DCA Contributions		Federal		\$77,169.81	59%	% Cost Share for 3DHP Base Data

PAST PERFORMANCE

Past Performance (of primary applicant) <i>750 characters maximum</i>	<p>Please provide a summary of the applicant's history of managing large data acquisitions with multiple funding partners</p> <p>The Montana State Library (MSL) was the primary applicant on five 3DEP BAA/DCAs (2019-2023), totaling over a dozen funding partners.</p> <p>MSL is the state clearinghouse for GIS data and manages the Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI), including the Hydrography Theme. Funding for this work is complex, with the core funding source being state special revenue supplemented by direct state general fund and state agency pass-through monies.</p> <p>MSL manages the Montana Geospatial Information Act Grant program. Funding is awarded to state, county, tribal, and local governments.</p> <p>MSL has long-standing partnerships with the USDA-NRCS (MT) and other federal and state agencies to provide GIS services.</p>
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ADDITIONAL PROJECT DETAILS OR CLARIFICATIONS

(1500 characters maximum)

The USFS Proposed Funding comes from an existing contract with the USGS.

The City of Bozeman is fully supportive and has expressed a substantial funding commitment; however, before providing a signed Funding Partner Form City Council consent is needed. The project will be brought to the Council either Sept. 23 or in October. A signed Form with a significant contribution is anticipated by the end of October.

This project has been discussed with the NRCS (the MT Office and the National office). National (Drew Lane) expressed interest in providing additional funding support.

The project area has strong local support through the Gallatin Water Collaborative led by the Gallatin Watershed Council. Several of the partners are on this application, and there are additional organizations engaged. The Gallatin Water Collaborative has over 40 participating stakeholders.

Partners desire the entire Gallatin HU8 Subbasin (10020008) but recognize partner funds are insufficient for the full 1,847 square miles. Thus, the proposal for the Lower Gallatin portion of the subbasin only at this time. More is desired.

Partners are especially interested in canals and ditches and may need additional mapping and services beyond EDH/3DHP base data. An estimate from NV5 is available upon request.