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Montana Department of
Natural Resources & Conservation



Conservation and Resource Develop-
ment Division

Physical Address:
1539 11th Avenue
Helena, MT 59601-4567

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 201601
Helena, MT 59620-1601



Montana Department of
Natural Resources &
Conservation

Watershed Management Grants



Jorri Dyer
Watershed Management Grant Program Manager

Email: Jorri.Dyer2@mt.gov
Office Phone: 406-444-6839

Program Purpose

The Watershed Management Grant (WMG) Program goals are to provide financial support for the development and implementation of locally led watershed related planning and capacity building activities that conserve, develop, manage or preserve state renewable resources.



Eligible Applicants

Local government, state government, and tribal government entities.

Non-profit entities may apply with local government sponsorship.

OR

Non-government entity may apply with 1:1 match requirement.

Match

Local government, state government, tribal government and sponsored non-profit entities: DNRC will provide 100% reimbursement for eligible activities.

Non-government entity: A cost share of 50% of total costs is required. Match shares may be in-kind services or cash.

*50/50 Match requirement for equipment, materials and supply expenses pertaining to planning activities.

Eligible Activities

Planning-

- Watershed management planning that advances towards future projects; such as prioritizing stream protection projects, water restoration plans, project design.
- Development of watershed related natural resource management plans.
- Staff time related to activity planning and management.
- Data collection, public meetings and other tasks related to planning .

Capacity Building-

- Improving organizational effectiveness.
- Grant writing.
- Hosting a Big Sky Watershed Corps member.
- Professional conference and training events directly related to proposed watershed management activities.
- Materials/equipment necessary for proposed activity*

*50/50 Match required

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on the degree to which the activity meets the following criteria:

- Purpose and proposed activities will result in watershed management and build capacity.
- The activity conserves, develops, improves or preserves state water resources.
- Project supports local and state natural resource plans.
- Demonstration of stakeholder, local landowner, and community participation.
- The proposal is feasible. Applicant has the ability and tools to complete proposed activities.
- Clarity of scope, schedule, and budget.



Available Funding

- Limit **\$35,000** per applicant per biennium