



# 319 Nonpoint Source Final Application

FY2017 Final Applications are due Monday, September 26, 2016 by 2:00 pm

## Section I: General Information

Project Title Lower Dempsey Creek Restoration

### Project Sponsor Information

Sponsor Name Clark Fork Coalition

Registered with the Secretary of State? Yes

Registered with SAM? Yes

County Missoula

Website www.clarkfork.org

Tax Identification # 36-3428665

DUNS # 840737332

Primary Contact Will McDowell

Signatory Karen Knudsen

Title Stream restoration director

Title Executive Director

Address Box 7593

Address Box 7593

City Missoula State Montana Zip Code 59804

City Missoula State Montana Zip Code 59804

Phone Number 406-396-7716

Phone Number 406-542-0539 x203

Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address will@clarkfork.org

E-mail Address karen@clarkfork.org

Signature *Will McDowell*

Signature *Karen Knudsen*

### Project Location

12 Digit HUC #(s) 170102010701

(1) Waterbody Name from 2016 List of Impaired Waters Dempsey Creek

(1) Probable cause(s) of impairment to be addressed (ex. metals) Sedimentation/siltation, nitrogen, phosphorus, alt. streamside veg.

(2) Waterbody Name from 2016 List of Impaired Waters \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Probable cause(s) of impairment to be addressed (ex. metals) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Waterbody Name from 2016 List of Impaired Waters \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Probable cause(s) of impairment to be addressed (ex. metals) \_\_\_\_\_

Activity 1 Name Stream re-naturalization/ stock water Latitude (1) 46.3010 Longitude (1) -112.7758

Activity 2 Name Grazing management/stock water Latitude (2) 46.2947 Longitude (2) -112.7854

Activity 3 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Latitude (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude (3) \_\_\_\_\_

### Nonpoint Source (NPS) Information

Which WRP does the project implement? Upper Clark Fork Tributaries (WRC) What is the WRP status? DEQ-Accepted

Does the project address impairments identified in a TMDL? Yes Waterbody Type River/Stream

Functional Category Sediment Control

1st Pollution Category Agriculture (Grazing Related Sources) Percent of Total (%) 60

2nd Pollution Category Hydromodification (Channelization) Percent of Total (%) 30

3rd Pollution Category Agriculture (Irrigated Crop Production) Percent of Total (%) 10

4th Pollution Category \_\_\_\_\_ Percent of Total (%) \_\_\_\_\_

### Project Funding

319 Funds Requested	<input type="text" value="\$77,430.00"/>	Does the project sponsor have any open 319 contracts?	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>
Matching Funds		Project Title	<u>Lost Horse Creek Streamflow Enhancement</u>
<i>State Cash Match</i>	<input type="text"/>	DEQ Contract Number	<u>213023</u>
<i>Local Cash Match</i>	<input type="text" value="\$37,000.00"/>	319 Award	<u>\$134,240.00</u>
<i>In-Kind Match</i>	<input type="text" value="\$18,800.00"/>	Projected Closing Date	<u>November 2017</u>
Total Match	<input type="text" value="\$55,800.00"/>	Project Title	<u>Upper Lolo Creek Sediment Reduction Phase 2</u>
Other Federal Funds	<input type="text"/>	DEQ Contract Number	<u>216033</u>
Total Project Budget	<input type="text" value="\$133,230.00"/>	319 Award	<u>\$117,960.00</u>
Administrative Fee	<input type="text"/>	Projected Closing Date	<u>November 2018</u>

### Section II: Project Description

#### Goal and Objectives: Describe the overall goal and specific objectives for this project.

The goal of the project is to improve water quality and stream habitat conditions on the most degraded sections of lower Dempsey Creek. The objectives are: 1) to re-naturalize a channelized stream reach and improve the grazing regime; 2) to re-vegetate and improve the grazing regime on another degraded reach of Dempsey Creek. Realizing these objectives will provide measurable improvements in stream form, substrate (reduce fine sediment), aquatic habitat quality, riparian shrub cover, and water quality.

#### Methods: Describe the approach selected to address/correct the problem(s), e.g. types of BMPs to be installed, and other important activities.

The Clark Fork Coalition and landowner will address the root causes of the stream degradation problem, namely over-grazing and channel manipulation. A 1,100 ft. sub-reach (#3) which has been channelized will be re-naturalized, using bio-engineering techniques. A specialized engineering firm will be contracted to provide the survey and design. The project will construct a sinuous natural channel of 1500 ft. length to replace the segment which is straightened. This re-naturalized segment will be fenced off from the remainder of the pasture, allowing several years of complete rest from grazing, then a much lighter grazing regime. Off-stream water will be supplied from a new well and winterized pipeline to be constructed by the Project.

A second sub-reach (#2--2,300 ft. in length) will be fenced off and rested completely for several years. This reach still has natural sinuosity and some vertical stability. Sedge mats, willow sprouts, and some mature willow transplants will be planted to accelerate the process of bank stabilization. Stock water will be supplied by a separate winterized pipeline off the new well. A new, much lighter, grazing regime will be established after the complete rest period and re-establishment of vigorous bank-binding root systems.

#### Summary: Provide a brief summary of the project.

The proposed Lower Dempsey Creek Restoration Project will address natural resource problems created by the historical degradation of the lower Dempsey Creek channel above Yellowstone Trail near Deer Lodge. This reach of Dempsey Creek suffers from severe erosion/sedimentation, poor water quality, loss of riparian and aquatic habitat due to historic channelization and recent land use. This reach of Dempsey Creek flows through pastures and croplands irrigated with pivot sprinklers, which are both intensively used in fall, winter and early spring for grazing of cattle and horses. Degradation and sedimentation of the channel causes winter overflows and icing of the fields, leading the landowner to divert the entire stream into a ditch for most of the year. The Project will relocate and re-naturalize the ditched stream segment (sub-reach #3) by creating a natural plan, slope, and cross-section using bio-engineering techniques. This new natural channel will be protected within a fenced enclosure. Livestock, which previously used the stream for water supply, will be provided winterized water from a new well and heated stock tank. A second sub-reach (#2) upstream which has suffered intense negative impact from livestock each fall, winter and spring will be fenced and re-vegetated with sedges and native woody riparian plants. A second winterized water tank and pipeline (using the same new well as sub-reach #3) will be constructed to provide all-season off-stream water for the livestock. In all, this phase of the Project will renaturalize and revegetate 3,800 feet of stream channel.

## Section III: Background Information

### Statement of Project Need and Intent

These sub-reaches of lower Dempsey Creek suffer very degraded riparian conditions--they were rated between 20% and 38% (out of 100) in riparian assessments done by the Watershed Restoration Coalition in 2010 using the Montana NRCS protocol. Conditions leading to low scores included historic channel straightening, high rates of bank erosion, and overwidening of the channel, poor floodplain vegetation (almost total absence of woody vegetation), high degree of floodplain trampling and bare ground, and poor fish habitat. Field inspection in 2016 indicates these conditions still exist. The purpose of the Project is to re-naturalize and re-vegetate 3,800 feet of Dempsey Creek's channel and protect it from over-grazing with new fences, provide alternate stock water sources, and rehabilitate a small irrigation diversion. These actions will lead to improved water quality, lower sedimentation-siltation, and better riparian and aquatic habitat, while minimizing the winter overflow and icing which damages productivity of the pastures and croplands.

### Describe the pre-project planning that has already occurred.

- 1) The problems on this part of Dempsey Creek were identified in 2010 during a stream-walk riparian assessment of tributaries in the Upper Clark Fork. This assessment was funded by DEQ, executed by the Watershed Restoration Coalition, with field supervision by Will McDowell of Clark Fork Coalition. These reaches are the lowest scoring riparian condition on the assessed parts of Dempsey Creek.
- 2) The Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District contracted Alpine Creek Restoration LLC in 2011-2012 to assess the problems in-depth and provide recommended solutions. The proposed actions in this Project follow the recommendations of that 2012 Study. The District also asked the landowner to address the stream channelization with a permanent conservation-mined solution.
- 3) The Watershed Restoration Coalition's "Watershed Restoration Plan for Upper Clark Fork Tributaries" (WRP) prioritizes Dempsey Creek for restoration, including addressing sediment, stream channel alteration, and loss of riparian vegetation impairments.
- 4) The Clark Fork Coalition has met with the landowner, examined the current status of the problems in the field with the landowner, and devised conceptual solutions in close coordination with the landowner, the Conservation District, and Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks fish biologist for the Upper Clark Fork.

Although there are three sub-reaches of concern, this phase of the Project will only address sub-reaches 2 and 3. Sub-reach #1 will be a second phase of the Project. Sub-reach 1 is where a pivot sprinkler crosses the creek at multiple sites.

### Collaborative Effort: Describe the collaborative effort you have engaged in to ensure support from all appropriate partners.

The Clark Fork Coalition has worked closely with the Watershed Restoration Coalition (WRC), the Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District, and Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks in the Deer Lodge valley since 2009, meeting with members of these organizations on approximately a weekly basis. We participated as field supervisor on the WRC's original field assessments of UCF tributary conditions, including Dempsey Creek, in 2010 and 2011. We assisted the Watershed Restoration Coalition in developing their WRP for Upper Clark Fork Tributaries. We participate in monthly meetings of the Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District, and supervised their contractor on the Dempsey Creek Preliminary Project Report in 2011-2012. We work with Montana FWP biologists in the UCF to assess project priorities, review funding opportunities and permit requirements, and analyze conceptual designs for channel and fish passage work on a frequent basis. We have been in consultation with this landowner periodically for five years leading up to their decision to invest in conservation practices on this site. Dempsey Creek is a priority creek for FWP-NRDP and for the CFC's Aquatic Restoration Strategy.

### Partners and Roles: Identify the project partners and their roles.

Partner	Role
Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District Deer Lodge, MT	Provide 310 permitting for all stream channel projects, including field supervision of permitted stream alterations by this landowner. District will assist with E&O through story in its newsletter. Assistance with potential funding of future phases of this project through DNRC.
Watershed Restoration Coalition	Provide data from prior stream reach assessments, including flow data, water temperature data, and riparian condition data. Assist in seeking funding for next phases of the Project.
Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks fisheries program	Provide advice on conceptual design of re-naturalized stream channel, and permit requirements for proposed actions. Provide baseline fish population, fish habitat, and water temperature data for surrounding reaches of Dempsey Creek.
Vanisko Ranches, Inc.	The key landowner for this reach will provide in-kind heavy equipment & skilled labor to install the winterized stock water systems. The landowner will develop new grazing regimes for the protected stream enclosures in coordination with CFC.

## Technical and Administrative Qualifications

The Clark Fork Coalition will manage this Project, and provide key match funding. CFC brings an experienced technical and grant management team to this project and a proven track record of administration and performance on government funded grants during its 31-year history. The project will be led by CFC's Stream Restoration Director, Will McDowell. Will has been involved in over \$1.5 million dollars of stream assessment, water quality monitoring, design and construction supervision of stream restoration, fish passage, and instream flow projects in western Montana in the last 17 years. Will is going to perform all project management duties, including coordination with landowners and partners, hiring /supervising of design professionals, hiring and oversight of construction firms, and reporting. On the administrative side, the CFC's grant administrator. will assist in managing the billing and financial reports. Other CFC support includes an in-house attorney , a GIS specialist, and a summer field monitoring technician.

## Past and Current Projects

Funding Organization	Award Amount	Project Description	Project Status	Contact Information
Montana DEQ 319	\$105,000.00	Installation of a siphon under Lost Horse Creek in order to remove a gravel dam. The project will solve issues with sediment, fish passage and entrainment, and chronic dewatering of the creek. Ward Irrigation District will reduce its irrigation diversion by 10 cfs for 50 years upon completion of the project.	nearing completion	Katie Steele DEQ 1520 E. 6th Ave Helena, MT 59601 406-444-0549
Montana FWP	\$93500.00	Installation of a siphon under Lost Horse Creek in order to remove a gravel dam. The project will solve issues with sediment, fish passage and entrainment, and chronic dewatering of the creek. Ward Irrigation District will reduce its irrigation diversion by 10 cfs for 50 years upon completion of the project.	nearing completion	Michelle McGree MFWP PO Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620 406-444-2432
Montana FWP	\$29,960.00	Construction of a 1350 ft. natural channel on Browns Gulch, Ueland Ranches, near Prevost Road. This channel replaced an 800 ft. deeply incised channel which was producing large quantities of eroded sediment. Channel completed in 2015, with project monitoring data showing successful revegetation, erosion control and fish habitat enhancement results.	complete	Michelle McGree MFWP PO Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620 406-444-2432
Montana DEQ 319	\$43200.00	Construction of a 1350 ft. natural channel on Browns Gulch, Ueland Ranches, near Prevost Road. This channel replaced an 800 ft. deeply incised channel which was producing large quantities of eroded sediment. Channel completed in 2015, with project monitoring data showing successful revegetation, erosion control and fish habitat enhancement results.	complete	Katie Steele DEQ 1520 E. 6th Ave Helena, MT 59601 406-444-0549

**Section IV: Scope of Work**

Task 1 Title Stream Re-naturalization Design

Description

The CFC will hire an experienced geomorphic engineer to design a new stream channel approximately 1500 ft. in length for sub-reach #3. The CFC will develop a scope of work, and perform a competitive bid for engineers in coordination with the Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District, which has a list of pre-qualified engineers for stream restoration work. The scope of work will require bio-engineering approach, developing channel dimensions, plan and profile based on nearby reference reaches of Dempsey Creek which are still in relatively good condition, and using natural materials, especially live plant material to stabilize the channel. The design will also include a simple irrigation diversion structure and headgate which currently exists in a degraded section of channel which will be relocated. The design will be complemented by a simple set of specifications and an engineers cost estimate. The CFC will develop the bid documents, and use the Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District's pre-qualified bidders list to select the engineer through a competitive process meeting State of Montana procurement rules.

Deliverables

- \*Scope of work for design.
- \*Design and specifications for 1,500 ft. long bio-engineered channel.
- \*Bid documents for construction firms
- \*Permits for construction (310 and 404)

Task 1 Funding

319 Funds	\$8,000.00
Non-Federal Match	\$8,000.00
Other Federal Funds	
Total Cost	\$16,000.00
Is Match Secured?	Yes

Timeline July 2017 to May 2018

Match Source CFC private grants (Orvis 8gr8)

Task 2 Title Construction of Off-Stream Livestock Water and Fencing

Description

The CFC and landowner will collaborate on design and construction of new grazing infrastructure, including an off-stream stock water system which provides year-round water supply to both pastures (sub-reach #3 and sub-reach #2), and fencing enclosures for both stream reaches. The stock water system will include a new well to be drilled along Yellowstone Trail (where power is available), about 2,100 ft. of HDPE 1.5 inch pipeline buried about 6 feet, and two heated prefabricated stock tanks. The new fencing will be high-tensile 3-wire electric fencing with solar chargers.

The well will be drilled and pump set by a well drilling contractor. The landowner will install the pipeline and tanks. The fencing will be done by a fencing contractor.

Deliverables

- \*New stock water well, including casing, screen, pump, controller, pressure system and electric hook-up (approx. 80 ft.)
- \*2,100 ft. of buried stock water pipeline and two prefabricated stock tanks, installed.
- \*3,000 ft. of high-tensile 3-wire electric fence with 2 solar chargers. (1400 ft. in sub-reach #3 and 1600 ft. in sub-reach #2)
- \*Grazing plan for each new enclosure, starting with three years of rest.

Task 2 Funding

319 Funds	\$12,930.00
Non-Federal Match	\$16,800.00
Other Federal Funds	
Total Cost	\$29,730.00
Is Match Secured?	Yes

Timeline February 2018 to October 2018

Match Source landowner

Task 3 Title Construction and Revegetation of Stream Channel Segments

Description

The CFC will work with the contracted engineer and Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District to hire a construction contractor qualified in stream restoration to construct the 1,500 ft. re-naturalized segment of sub-reach #3. The CFC will do construction oversight, with support from the design engineer. The construction contractor will have to demonstrate prior experience in implementing bio-engineered stream channel designs.

The revegetation of 2,300 ft. of sub-reach #2 will be bid out as a part of the construction bid, potentially by a sub-contractor. Mature willows for transplant will be provided by the landowner. The CFC will contract for willow cuttings provided by experienced revegetation contractors supplemented by volunteer work as needed. CFC has a volunteer program coordinator who can provide organized volunteer brigades.

Deliverables

\*A 1500 ft. renaturalized stream channel in sub-reach #3 connecting Dempsey Creek to Quinlan Slough, including a new irrigation water diversion.

\*Revegetated stream channel in sub-reach #2 for 2,300 ft.

Task 3 Funding

319 Funds	\$51,000.00
Non-Federal Match	\$24,000.00
Other Federal Funds	
Total Cost	\$75,000.00
Is Match Secured?	Yes

Timeline March 2018 to October 2018

Match Source CF Coalition private grants (Orvis 8Gr8) and landowner

Task 4 Title Education and Outreach

Description

CFC plans to work closely with landowners in the watershed, irrigators, the conservation district, and state government agencies to communicate the water quality and fishery benefits associated with this project. Education and Outreach will be carried out through presentations at Deer Lodge Conservation District meetings, the District newsletter, articles in the CFC newsletters, and postings to the CFC website. A field trip to the Project area will also be carried out.

Deliverables

\*One District newsletter article (circulation to 300 landowners)

\*One CF Coalition newsletter article and website posting

\*One field trip for agency, District, and landowners

Task 4 Funding

319 Funds	
Non-Federal Match	\$1,000.00
Other Federal Funds	
Total Cost	\$1,000.00
Is Match Secured?	Yes

Timeline July 2018 to July 2019

Match Source CFC private grants (Orvis 8gr8)

Task 5 Title Monitoring

Description

Project monitoring will be conducted for project implementation, project effectiveness, and for TMDL compliance, as appropriate. A Sampling and Analysis Plan will be prepared at the outset of the Project. The project effectiveness monitoring will be done on a before-after comparison basis. This means physical-biological data will be collected before the project, and after project implementation. Parameters to be monitored may include: Aquatic habitat/sedimentation: pools per 1000 ft., residual pool depth, percent substrate less than 2mm, percent substrate less than 6mm, bankfull width/depth ratio, eroding banks, Greenline woody vegetation counts. Nutrient parameters (total nitrogen, total phosphorus) will be sampled upstream and downstream of the project reach as a baseline using DEQ protocols and the State of Montana Environmental lab (DPHHS) in Helena for analysis. Documentary before-after photos will also be collected.

Monitoring will be led by Will McDowell at Clark Fork Coalition, who has many years of experience collecting field data for these parameters in western Montana. The CFC has a summer monitoring technician position, who will assist with this data collection and processing.

Deliverables

- \*Sampling and Analysis plan (SAP) for the Project.
- \*Monitoring data reports (baseline and post-project) including estimates of reduction of sediment production in the reach.
- \*Laboratory reports on total nitrogen and total phosphorus concentrations at upper and lower end of the reach, compared to TMDL targets.
- \*Photo-documentation at GPS locations (before-after) of multiple points on each sub-reach

Task 5 Funding

319 Funds	\$500.00
Non-Federal Match	\$4,000.00
Other Federal Funds	
Total Cost	\$4,500.00
Is Match Secured?	Yes

Timeline July 2017 to December 2019

Match Source CFC private grants (Orvis 8gr8)

Task 6 Title Project Administration

Description

All project reports (quarterly, annual, and final report) will be prepared by Will McDowell with support from the CFC grant administrator (on all financial aspects). Proper budgeting for administration costs will ensure that we have the necessary support to meet the terms of the grant and maintain proper accounting and reporting for the DEQ 319 program.

The CFC has an experienced book keeper and project grants administrator, Julie Hiatt, who will assist with financial aspects of project management.

Deliverables

- \*Quarterly reports according to DEQ required formats
- \*Annual report according to DEQ required format
- \*Final report. to DEQ.

Task 6 Funding

319 Funds	\$5,000.00
Non-Federal Match	\$2,000.00
Other Federal Funds	
Total Cost	\$7,000.00
Is Match Secured?	Yes

Timeline \_\_\_\_\_

Match Source CFC Private grants



**Project Milestone Table:** Complete the following Project Milestone Table by entering task numbers and titles in the left hand column, then check the box(es) for the appropriate quarter(s) and years(s) in which you will be working on the task.

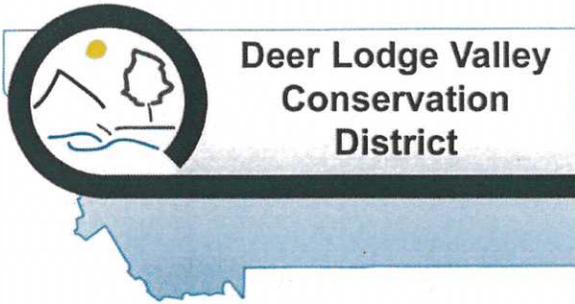
Milestone	Spring 2017	Summer 2017	Fall 2017	Winter 2017	Spring 2018	Summer 2018	Fall 2018	Winter 2018	Spring 2019	Summer 2019	Fall 2019
1. Design for renaturalized channel complete with permits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Fencing installed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Stock water system constructed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Stream channel reconstruction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Revegetation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Education and Outreach	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Project Administration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>									
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Submit **project map(s)** and **letters of support (at least 3)** along with the Final Project Proposal form. If your organization is not the author of the WRP you hope to implement, you must request a letter of support from the original authoring entity. If the authoring entity refuses to provide a letter of support, use the additional space at the end of the application to describe their response. If design drawings are available, provide those as well. For on-the-ground work, include copies of applicable permits if available.

- Project Map
- Letters of Support
- Design Drawings
- Applicable Permits
- Draft of amended WRP (if applicable)
- Photos
- Landowner Agreements

**Use the space provided for any additional information that may not have been captured elsewhere in this Final Project Proposal**

The key landowner for this Project is Vanisko Ranches, Inc. Mr. Berg, the proprietor, suffered an accident in September, 2016, which required hospitalization, surgery, and a prolonged recovery period. His family has asked that he not be bothered at this early stage of his recovery. Therefore, I will not submit a letter of support from the landowner until later this fall, when he is sufficiently recovered.



1002 Hollenback Road, Suite C  
Deer Lodge, MT 59722

Phone: (406) 846-1703, ext. 111  
Email: [Susie.johnson@mt.nacdnet.net](mailto:Susie.johnson@mt.nacdnet.net)

Fax: (855) 510-7027

September 22, 2016

To whom it may concern:

The Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District would like to express its strong support for the proposed Lower Dempsey Creek Restoration Project proposed for DEQ 319 funding by the Clark Fork Coalition. The District has been aware of channel alteration and sediment problems on this reach of Dempsey Creek for some time. In 2012 the District contracted Alpine Creek Restoration to do an assessment of two miles of the creek in this reach, and to propose restoration alternatives. Will McDowell supervised that study for the District.

The proposed project follows the recommendations of our 2012 study. We believe the proposed conservation practices in this 319 Project are the best available approach to address the water quality and erosion problems on this reach. This project will address the grazing pressures and ongoing channel manipulation that are a root cause of the problems.

We look forward to working with Clark Fork Coalition, the landowner, and Montana DEQ and other partners to improve land use and conservation practices on lower Dempsey Creek.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Hollenback". The signature is written in a cursive style.

John Hollenback, Chairman

**Watershed Restoration Coalition  
Ste. 3 1002 Hollenback lane  
Deer Lodge Montana 59722**

Sept.23, 2016

To whom it may concern:

The Watershed Restoration Coalition (WRC) would like to express its strong support for the proposed Lower Dempsey Creek Restoration Project proposed for DEQ 319 funding by the Clark Fork Coalition. The WRC has been aware of channel alteration and sediment problems on this reach of Dempsey Creek since at least 2010. In our assessment work with Montana 319 monies in 2010-2011, we assessed seven miles of Dempsey Creek for riparian condition using the Montana NRCS protocol. This two mile reach was the most degraded, lowest scoring reach in the entire seven miles. Grazing, channel alteration and irrigation practices were the root cause of the problems.

Dempsey Creek is a priority stream in our Watershed Restoration Plan (WRP). Addressing sediment, fish passage, stream channel alteration and streamside vegetation impairments on lower Dempsey Creek through stream re-naturalization and grazing management is a part of our Watershed Restoration Plan for the Upper Clark Fork tributaries (page 17). We believe this proposed 319 Project fits well within our objectives and strategies for Dempsey Creek.

Clark Fork Coalition has been one of our partners on the Upper Clark Fork Tributaries WRP since the outset of that effort. We look forward to supporting Clark Fork Coalition, Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District, the landowner, Montana DEQ and other partners to improve land use and conservation practices on lower Dempsey Creek.

Sincerely,



Ted Dodge

Executive Director

Watershed Restoration Coalition



## Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

9-26-2016

Watershed Protection Section  
Montana Department of Environmental Quality  
Helena, MT

RE: Support for the Clark Fork Coalition's 319 proposal relative to the Lower Dempsey Creek Restoration Project.

To whom it may concern:

As the Upper Clark Fork fisheries biologist for Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, I would like to express my support for the proposed Lower Dempsey Creek Restoration Project proposed for DEQ 319 funding by the Clark Fork Coalition. I have personal familiarity with the degraded conditions in this reach of Dempsey Creek, which are a concern for both FWP and the Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District. The Conservation District had an assessment done of the problems in this reach of Dempsey Creek in 2012 by Alpine Creek Restoration. I have discussed the proposed measures outlined in this 319 proposal with the Clark Fork Coalition. The proposed project follows the recommendations of the 2012 study, and addresses major channel integrity and sedimentation problems in the reach. I believe the proposed conservation practices in this 319 Project are the best available means to address the water quality and erosion problems in this reach. This project will help to reduce the grazing pressures and ongoing channel manipulation that are a root cause of the problems.

We look forward to working with the Clark Fork Coalition, the Conservation District, the landowners, and Montana DEQ to improve aquatic habitat in lower Dempsey Creek.

Sincerely,

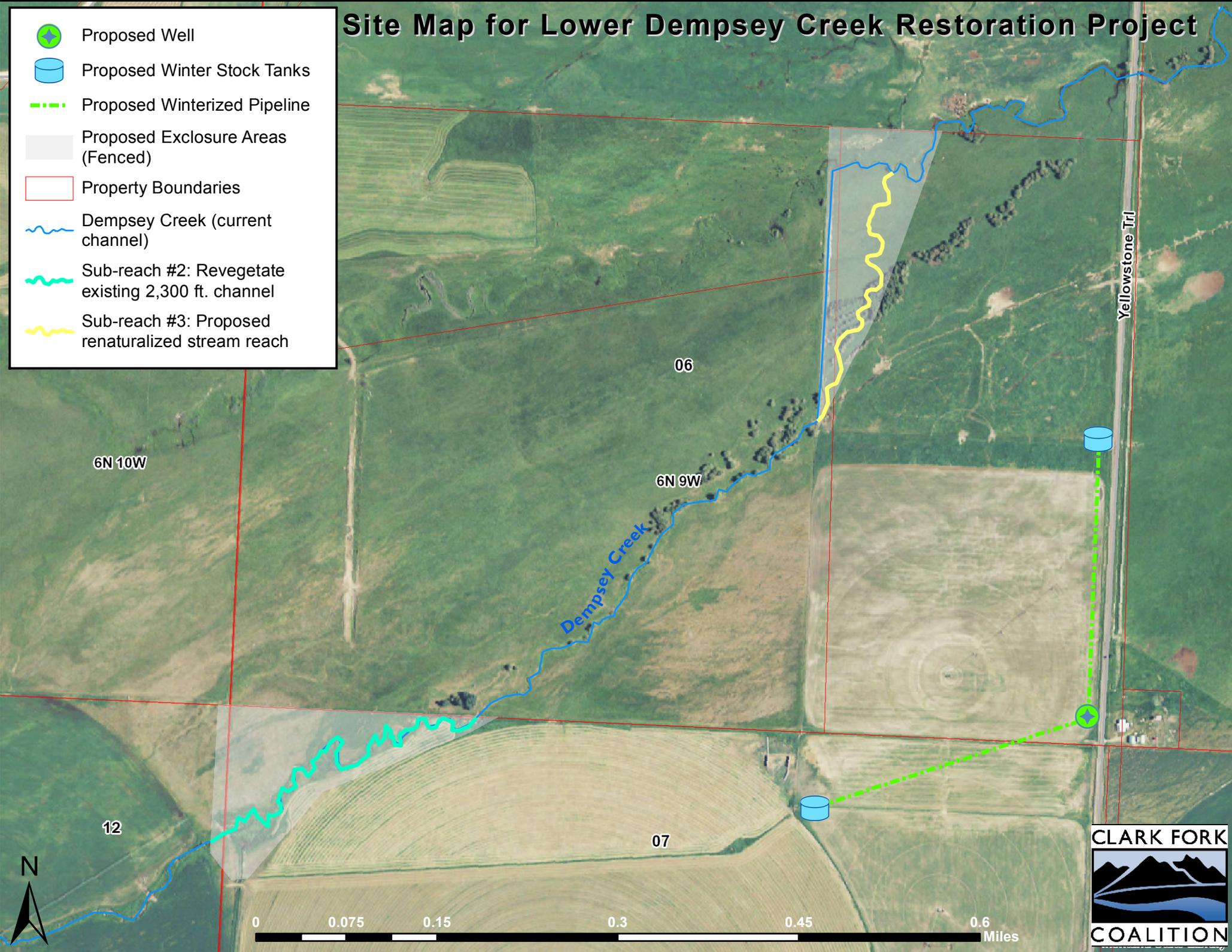
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Lindstrom".

Jason Lindstrom  
Fisheries Biologist  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
P.O. Box 24  
Anaconda, MT 59711

Phone: (406) 529-8058  
Email: [jlindstrom@mt.gov](mailto:jlindstrom@mt.gov)

# Site Map for Lower Dempsey Creek Restoration Project

-  Proposed Well
-  Proposed Winter Stock Tanks
-  Proposed Winterized Pipeline
-  Proposed Exclosure Areas (Fenced)
-  Property Boundaries
-  Dempsey Creek (current channel)
-  Sub-reach #2: Revegetate existing 2,300 ft. channel
-  Sub-reach #3: Proposed renaturalized stream reach



Yellowstone Trl

6N 10W

06

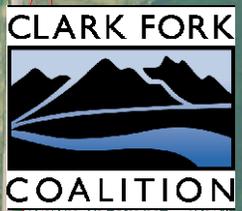
6N 9W

Dempsey Creek

12

07

0 0.075 0.15 0.3 0.45 0.6 Miles



Lower Dempsey Creek Project photos:



Channelized sub-reach #3, looking downstream.