



# 319 NPS Project Funding Request

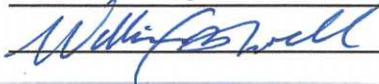
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<http://deq.mt.gov/Water/WPB/Nonpoint-Source-Program/NPS-319-Project-Funding>

Project Title Lower Dempsey Creek Restoration

### Project Sponsor Information

Name Clark Fork Coalition Tax ID # 36-3428665  
 Address Box 7593 Website www.clarkfork.org  
 City Missoula State Montana Zip Code 59807 County Missoula

Primary Contact Will McDowell  
 Title Stream Restoration Director  
 Phone Number 406-396-7716  
 Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail Address will@clarkfork.org  
 Signature 

### Project Funding

319 Funds Requested	\$100,000.00
Non-Federal Matching Funds	\$67,000.00
Federal Funds	
Total Project Budget	\$167,000.00

### Project Location

Watershed Name or HUC # 170102010701  
 Latitude 46.2945 Longitude -112.7850  
 Is the waterbody on the 2016 List of Impaired Waters?  Yes  
 Does this project implement a WRP?  Yes

### Nonpoint Source (NPS) Information and Project Planning

Project Focus The project will reduce sediment and nutrient pollution, and improve stream-side vegetation in a 2-mile long agricultural reach of Dempsey Creek. Activities include re-naturalizing channelized reaches, off-stream livestock water and riparian fencing.

Does the landowner support this project?  Yes

### Project Description

Timeline: Please detail the proposed timeline for this project.

2016/ early 2017: Preliminary design and pilot re-vegetation (other funding). Fall/winter 2017: Final design, permits, and begin contracting process. In spring 2018 to spring 2019, fencing and construction activities will take place.

Please provide a brief overview of the proposed project, including background, purpose, partners and methods.

The Project reach of Dempsey Creek extends from Yellowstone Trail upstream to the State Prison boundary, and includes two landowners. The major landowner practices pivot irrigation of cropland and pasture in summer and intensive livestock grazing in fall, winter and spring, including cattle and horses. The stream is channelized in two reaches, woody riparian vegetation is mostly absent, livestock physical impact is severe, and sediment and nutrient inputs from cropland runoff and livestock are high. Dempsey Creek is 303 listed as impaired by sediment, nutrients, low-flow, and stream-side vegetation affecting aquatic life and cold-water fisheries. The root causes in this reach are intensive crop and livestock use without adequate stream-side vegetated buffer, and channel alterations.

The purpose of the Project is to reduce sediment and nutrient pollution inputs, and improve stream-side vegetation. Practices will include restoring natural channel characteristics, planting sedges/ woody riparian vegetation along the stream channel, installing off-stream stock water tanks (all-season) and fencing riparian corridors. There are over 280 acres of productive agricultural land affected, with about 27 acres to be included in riparian exclosures. The second landowner has mostly natural stream conditions and will not install new practices, but will benefit from improved water quality conditions, as will various landowners in the two miles downstream to the Clark Fork River confluence. The Deer Lodge Conservation District has a study of these reaches recommending these actions.

An attached Map from the District study shows three project reaches. Each reach will have distinct conservation practices designed for that parcel. All three reaches will have off-stream winterized stock water and fences to reduce animal impact to the stream. Design of re-naturalized reaches, including practices to reduce impact of pivot sprinklers on the stream channel, is a Project activity.

Figure 3. The Dempsey Creek project site extends from Yellowstone Trail Road upstream approximately 10,320 feet (1.95 miles) and traverses the Murphy, Fleming and Berg Ranches.

