



# 319 NPS Project Funding Request

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Project Title Upper Ninemile Placer Reclamation

### Project Sponsor Information

Name Trout Unlimited Tax ID # 38-1612715  
 Address 111 N. Higgins, Suite 500 Website www.tu.org  
 City Missoula State Montana Zip Code 59802 County Missoula

Primary Contact Paul Parson  
 Title Middle Clark Fork Restoration Coordinator  
 Phone Number 406 543 1192  
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 E-mail Address pparson@tu.org  
 Signature 

### Project Funding

319 Funds Requested	\$300,000.00
Non-Federal Matching Funds	\$350,000.00
Federal Funds	\$50,000.00
Total Project Budget	\$700,000.00

### Project Location

Watershed Name or HUC # Ninemile Creek

Latitude 47.210447 Longitude -114.6282009

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 focus of the Ninemile Creek mine reclamation project is restoration that will reduce sediment loads and stream temperatures in Ninemile Creek by regrading placer mine waste piles, dredge ponds and reconstructing approximately 3,600 feet of Ninemile Creek.

Does the landowner support this project?  Yes

### Project Description

Timeline: Please detail the proposed timeline for this project.

2017: Begin pre-project data collection and monitoring and finalize preliminary design documents. 2018: Finalize designs, obtain permitting, select contractors, continue pre-project monitoring, implement project. 2019: Monitoring and final reporting.

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

Historic mining activity on Ninemile Creek significantly altered hundreds of acres across the landscape. Mining in the late 1930s and early 1940s consisted of large scale dredging operations that worked the valley bottom. Specific problems include piles of placer mine tailings that range from 12 to 40 feet tall, a lack of floodplain connectivity, and excessive erosion.

Trout Unlimited and project partners will team to implement the completed TMDLs for Ninemile Creek by finalizing design plans for a mine reclamation project on private land in Upper Ninemile Creek. The damage from historic placer mining affects the Ninemile watershed through increased sediment and temperature loading. The project is the third phase of reclamation along the damaged four mile reach of Ninemile Creek and consists of reclaiming approximately of 3,600 feet of stream channel and floodplain by regrading approximately 169,000 cubic yards of placer mine piles throughout a 25 acre footprint. Two tributaries, Burnt Fork Creek and Twin Creek will be connected along this reach and off channel wetlands will be enhanced through regrading existing dredge ponds. The project will also provide research and educational opportunities to the University of Montana and local high school students.

The project partners continue to work with Trout Unlimited and have successfully completed seven mine reclamation projects in the Ninemile watershed. Partnerships with Missoula County, Lolo National Forest, DEQ, FWP, DNRC, University of Montana, Westslope Chapter of Trout Unlimited and local landowners provide a diverse team to implement large scale reclamation on Ninemile Creek.