



NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
WHITEFISH, MONTANA
SRF #: C301282

WHITEFISH INFILTRATION AND INFLOW MITIGATION PROJECT

February 3, 2016

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality has reviewed the above named project. The project consists of plans to slip-line approximately one mile of combined 6, 8 and 10 inch gravity sewer mains and repair approximately 33 leaking or deteriorating manhole structures. The work would occur within the Birch Point and City Beach development areas and also within the River Lakes subdivision. Investigations have found the piping to be leaking and allowing intrusion of groundwater and especially storm water, which results in significant impacts to the city wastewater treatment facility. The piping will be repaired via Cured-In-Place (CIP) lining of the existing main, where a collapsed sleeve is pulled into the sewer and then inflated with hot water or steam to expand to the internal pipe shape, which also initiates a chemical curing process. Manholes will be either replaced or repaired via CIP lining of the deteriorated section. The repair methods chosen are within the alignment of existing sewers and minimize the amount of excavation necessary to implement these improvements. The city is performing these improvements in advance of planning for further wastewater improvements to minimize flows. Wastewater from the city treatment facility is currently discharged to the Whitefish River under MPDES permit.

Pursuant to ARM 17.40.318, the Department has concluded that the proposed project meets the Categorical Exclusion criteria of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). The Categorical Exclusion may be revoked if the project is not initiated within the time period specified in the Preliminary Engineering Report, a new or modified application is submitted, new evidence demonstrates serious local or environmental issues exist, or state, local, tribal, or federal laws are violated.

Documentation for the Categorical Exclusion is available for public review at the following locations:

Department of Environmental Quality
State Revolving Fund Loan Program
1520 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

City of Whitefish
PO Box 158
Whitefish, MT 59937

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Todd Teegarden". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Todd Teegarden, Bureau Chief
Technical & Financial Assistance Bureau
Planning Prevention & Assistance Division
Montana Department of Environmental Quality