



2026 Nonpoint Source Pollution Reduction Application - Capacity Building/Education Outreach Projects

General Information

Project Name _____

Applicant Name _____

Is your organization registered with the Montana Secretary of State?

Explanation: Each applicant must be registered with the Montana Secretary of State to do business in the state of Montana. Registration with the Secretary of State may be completed via the following website: <https://sosmt.gov/business/>

Is your organization registered with the federal System for Award Management (SAM)?

Explanation: Each applicant is required to register with SAM. To register or check your organization's status, go to <https://sam.gov/content/home>. If you get an "Unsupported Browser" error, copy, and paste the link into a Google Chrome browser window.

Your organization's Unique Entity Identifier number (UEI #)

Explanation: Each applicant is required to have a current UEI number. The UEI number replaces the old DUNS number. If your organization had a DUNS number, you should have received a notification from the federal government indicating that your DUNS number has been changed to a UEI number. If you did not receive this notification, or if you never had a DUNS number, you will need to go to the federal government's System for Award Management (SAM - <https://sam.gov/content/home>) to obtain your UEI number. DEQ recommends starting this process early as it is very time-consuming, requires providing documentation-sometimes with follow-up requests for additional information, and can take up to 2 months to complete. If you need assistance, you may contact the federal help desk at 866-606-8220 Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m. EST.

Does your organization have adequate liability insurance for the risks associated with your project?

Explanation: Each applicant must have or obtain liability insurance coverage meeting the requirements stated in the Draft Sample Contract and/or requirements negotiated based on the appropriate level of risk associated with the project.

Primary Contact _____ Title _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Signature 

Explanation: This is the person who DEQ would routinely contact to discuss project progress, billing, etc.

Signatory _____ Title _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Signature 

Explanation: This is the person who can legally sign contracts and other binding documents on behalf of the applicant (e.g., a board chair)

Note: The primary contact and the signatory must both sign the application. Signatures must be either signed electronically, or wet-signed, scanned and emailed.

Project Form

Project Type

Is this a Capacity Building Project, or is it an Education and Outreach Project?

Explanation: DEQ supports education and outreach efforts that focus on changes in behavior that will prevent or reduce nonpoint source pollution. Our goal is to encourage adoption of Community Based Social Marketing concepts to produce measurable, sustainable change. We also want to support activities that improve local capacity to develop and implement on-the-ground projects to prevent or reduce nonpoint source pollution. In so doing, we are making a distinction between capacity building projects, and education and outreach projects. The selection you make above will be used to determine which questions on the Scoring Sheet reviewers will use to evaluate your project.

Required Attachments in Addition to This Form

Letter of support or from each organization critical to the project (*if applicable*)

Letter of support from each landowner associated with any on-the-ground component of the project (*if applicable*)

Budget Table (see Microsoft Excel Template)

Activity Location

List the watershed(s) where your proposed work will happen.

Activity Description

Describe your project goals, proposed activities and how the project will make progress towards addressing nonpoint source pollution. Explain why the proposed work is an appropriate next step towards preventing or reducing nonpoint source pollution.

Budget Form

Please fill out the Capacity Building and/or Education Outreach Project Budget Template (Excel file). Cells highlighted in yellow may be edited to fit the needs of your particular project. DEQ uses a template to construct nonpoint source grant contracts. The Budget Template contains tasks and typical deliverables that match up with the grant contract template. Please see the Example Contract and Scope of Work template for a more detailed look at typical task requirements and deliverables.

Capacity Building Projects

(only complete this page if you selected "Capacity Building Project" on the top of page 2; otherwise, leave this page blank)

Need and Opportunity

Describe your organization's need for increased capacity, and how the proposed project activities will help you meet those needs. Describe the local interest and opportunities for using the capacity you create to prevent or reduce nonpoint source pollution.

Measurement and Sustainability

Describe how you will measure an increase in capacity and how you would sustain this in to the future

Timeline

Describe your anticipated project timeline

Education and Outreach Projects

(only complete this page if you selected "Education and Outreach Project" on the top of page 2; otherwise, leave this page blank)

Behavioral Change

Identify the behavior change you are targeting and the target audience. From a nonpoint source pollution perspective, why is the change in behavior important and what impact would it have?

Barriers

What are the existing barriers to changing the behavior? How will your proposed activities address the identified barriers and lead to behavior change?

Evaluation

How will you measure the extent of the behavioral change achieved because of your project?

Timeline

Describe your anticipated timeline

Project Partners and Roles

Identify the partners that will be working on the project, and their roles.

Co-Benefit Considerations

DEQ is committed to carrying out nonpoint source pollution reduction projects within engaged communities where the impact stretches beyond improving water quality. DEQ will award additional points in the scoring form where co-benefits extend beyond the project. Below are a few examples of how projects might exemplify co-benefits.

- Project will reduce economic hardship such as from livestock mortalities, cost and energy needs to treat municipal drinking and wastewater treatment, or loss of income from recreation
- Project will benefit underserved markets
- Project will improve or create equitable access to a clean and healthy environment
- Project planning included consultation with Tribal Nations
- Project will improve flood and drought resilience of the landscape
- Project impacts will benefit a downstream community and other natural systems (e.g., drinking water sources, human health, wildlife habitat, etc)

Please use this section to highlight co-benefits your project may have.

Project Administration

Each contract will have a Project Administration Task. Take the requirements (listed below) into consideration when planning logistics and budget for your project. Project administration includes bookkeeping, invoicing, interim/annual/final report preparation, office supplies, rent, communications, etc. Nonpoint source funding applied to this task on each project must not exceed 10% of the total amount of funding requested, or \$3,000, whichever is lower. Like all other tasks, payment is by reimbursement for actual expenses incurred.

Report Format:

- *Contractor shall submit each Attachment B Billing Statement, Status Report and Final Report using the most current reporting guidance and templates provided by the DEQ project manager.*
- *Contractor shall ensure each Status Report and Final Report contains adequate documentation to justify accompanying reimbursement requests and match reporting, to the satisfaction of the DEQ project manager.*
- *Contractor shall ensure that the Final Report is a standalone document describing all contract activities and containing copies of all contract deliverables (even if the deliverables were previously submitted).*

Reporting Schedule:

- *Status Reports: Due June 15th and December 15th of each year the Contract is in effect.*
- *Draft Final Report: Contractor shall submit a complete draft Final Report for DEQ review and comment at least 15 days prior to the contract expiration date.*
- *Final Report: Contractor shall submit a Final Report, addressing DEQ comments on the draft Final Report, on or before the Contract expiration date.*
- *Attachment B Billing Statements: Contractor shall submit an Attachment B Billing Statement with each Status Report, or Final Report submitted to DEQ while the Contract is in effect. To maintain cash flow, Contractor may submit interim Attachment B Billing Statements as frequently as monthly during the term of the Contract. However, each interim Attachment B Billing Statement must be accompanied by an Interim Report.*

Additional Information

Use the space below to include anything additional for the review panel to consider. Attach additional items and information that could help reviewers better understand your project. Please be conscious of reviewers' time, as they may not have time to read lengthy studies and reports. Please do not attach copies of TMDL documents or watershed restoration plans. Please no more than 20 pages.

BUDGET

**LETTERS
OF
SUPPORT**



Gallatin Local Water Quality District



400 E. Babcock St. - Bozeman, MT 59715
406-582-3145 www.glwqd.org

17 February 2026

MT Department of Environmental Quality
Nonpoint Source Program
1520 East 6th Avenue
Helena, MT, 59601

Dear DEQ Nonpoint Source Program Committee,

I am writing in support of Gallatin Watershed Council's application for grant funding for the education and outreach component of the Gallatin Stream Teams program. The Gallatin Local Water Quality District (GLWQD) has worked closely with GWC to implement Gallatin Stream Teams since 2008. This partnership has been the nucleus of GLWQD's monitoring efforts for nearly two decades and has been instrumental in establishing long-term surface water quality datasets within the district.

One of the primary benefits GLWQD has gained from this partnership is increased monitoring capacity. Gallatin Stream Teams has been a reliable source of additional personnel to assist in our monitoring efforts. I have completed one monitoring season with the support of this partnership, and I cannot overstate the importance it played this past season. GLWQD was experiencing a significant reduction in staff capacity, and I am unsure we would have been able to collect the volume of data we did without this partnership. GWC did an excellent job managing program logistics, which enabled me to focus on the technical aspects of data collection rather than the many necessary tasks associated with volunteer management.

Gallatin Stream Teams also offers a unique opportunity for community members to become more involved in the watershed in which they live. Education and outreach are focal points of GLWQD, and this partnership is one of the most effective ways we engage with our community. Integrating community members into ongoing water quality efforts in the Gallatin Valley not only increases visibility of this work but also demonstrates the positive impact individuals can have on their watershed.

The past successes of Gallatin Stream Teams demonstrate how effectively GWC can leverage this grant to further advance water quality education and outreach efforts in the Gallatin Valley while also helping maintain critical monitoring efforts. Thank you in advance for your careful consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Cameron Enright
Gallatin Local Water Quality District Manager



MSU Bozeman
P.O. Box 173120
Bozeman, MT 59715-3400

10 February, 2026

MT Department of Environmental Quality
Nonpoint Source Program
1520 East 6th Avenue
Helena, MT, 59601

Dear DEQ Nonpoint Source Program Committee,

I am writing in support of the Gallatin Watershed Council application for grant funding for the Gallatin Stream Team. I have been engaged with the Gallatin Stream Team in various capacities since its inception circa 2008. I was a stream team member and joined other citizens to collect data in local streams and I also participated as a speaker and trainer for many years with the program in addition to helping with data wrangling and storage in my program's Data Hub. It has been incredible to see all this group has accomplished over the years and the staying power despite changing funding, personnel turnover, and changing community needs, in addition to all the challenges that any volunteer monitoring program faces.

Tammy Swinny (Crone at the time) was a driving force in initiating the Gallatin Stream Team, and as an employee of the Gallatin Local Water Quality District (GLWQD) and a founding member of the Gallatin Watershed Council (then Greater Gallatin Watershed Council), the relationship between GLWQD and GWC was strong surrounding the stream team. In those early years, GWC did an incredible job implementing the monitoring in partnership with GLWQD, then bringing the volunteers together at the end of the season for public informational meetings presenting and discussing results. This was a great model that other stream teams, and other groups emulated the approach, including the Madison Stream Team. Over the years, a need to chase funding forced the stream team to change sites and continually pivot in goals and objectives, which created challenges for volunteer retention and continuity in datasets. Some years back (I believe with leadership from Torie Haraldson), the group made a pivot to heavier engagement from GLWQD staff in leading monitoring with support from volunteers, orchestrated by GWC. This model in conjunction with standardized field monitoring stations has brought stability and rigor to monitoring, while still continuing to engage citizens in the data collection.

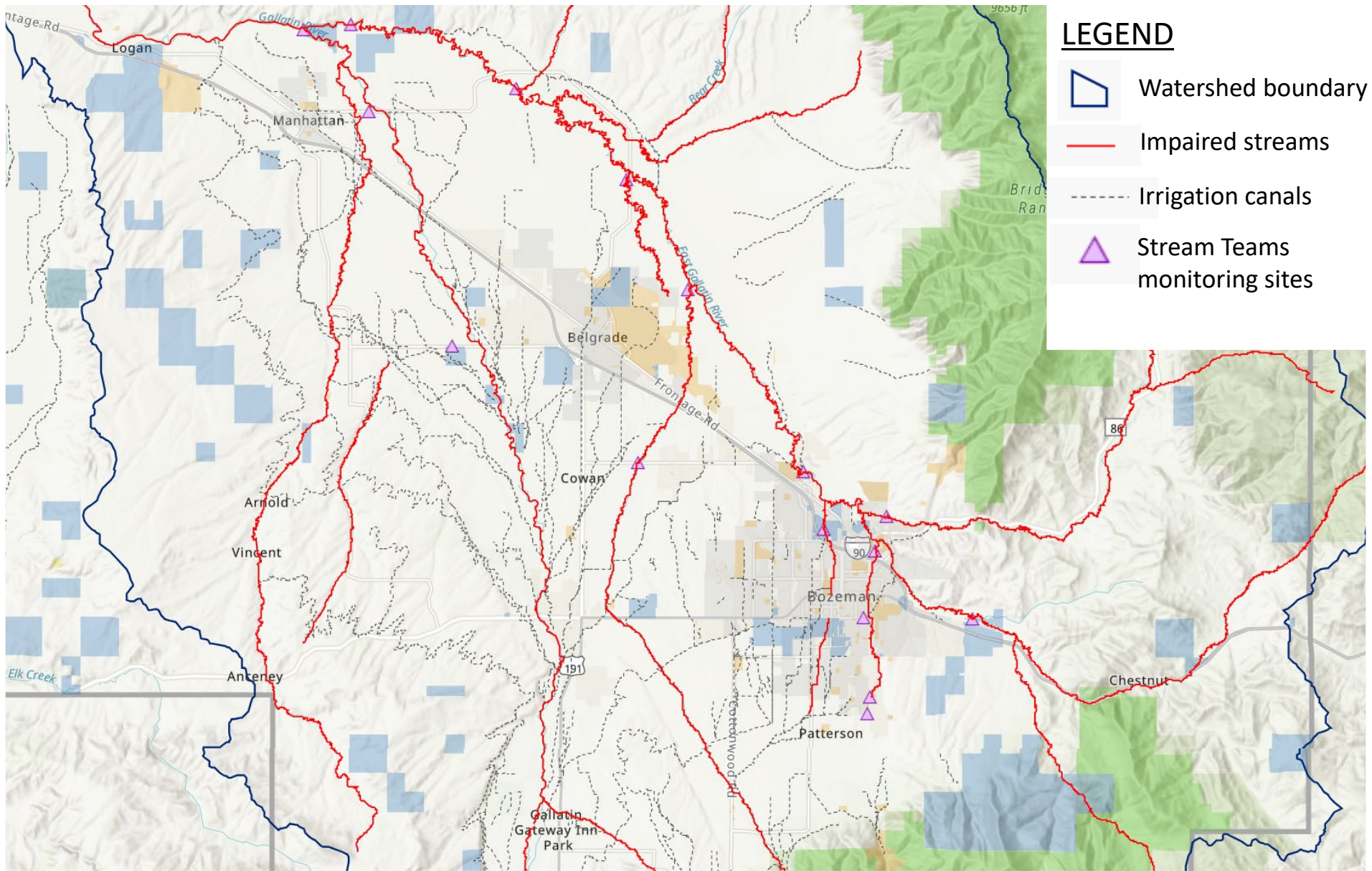
The GWC partnership with GLWQD seems to be a great model where the district leads the technical observation and data wrangling portion and GWC leads the public engagement component. It has been truly inspirational to see the synergistic water resource accomplishments led by GWC under the Gallatin Water Collaborative over the past few years. I have provided technical assistance to the stream team over the years and have interesting new work I am rolling out with Abbie Ebert in other watersheds that would be great to bring to bear in the Gallatin.

It seems to me that GWC could make very efficient use of grant funding to refine and revitalize public engagement approaches; building on past success and implementing new approaches. This work can build on the strong success and network that GWC has built under the Gallatin Water Collaborative. I hope you will give this proposal full consideration.

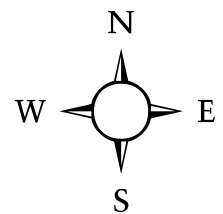
Sincerely,

W. Adam Sigler
Assistant Professor and Extension Water Quality Specialist
Land Resource and Environmental Sciences, Montana State University
Phone: (406) 994-7381; Email: asigler@montana.edu
Website: <http://waterquality.montana.edu/>

MAPS/ DESIGNS



Gallatin Local Water Quality District & Gallatin Watershed Council
Stream Teams Monitoring Sites



OTHER ATTACHMENTS