FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION

All sections must be addressed, or the application will be considered invalid

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

A. Applicant Name: Alan Gagne – Teton County Road Department Superintendent

Mailing Address: 92 Hwy 220

City: Choteau State: MT Zip: 59422

Telephone: 406-788-9277 E-mail: agagne@tetoncountymt.gov

B. Contact Person (if different than applicant): Katie Vivian

Address: PO Box 1398

City: Choteau State: MT Zip: 59422

Telephone: 406-466-5621 E-mail: kvivian@mt.gov

C. Landowner and/or Lessee Name (if different than applicant):

Mailing Address:

City: State: Zip:

Telephone: E-mail:

II. PROJECT INFORMATION

A. Project Name: Spring Coulee Creek Culvert Replacement

River, stream, or lake: Spring Coulee Creek

Location: Township: 22 N Range: 1 W Section: 22

Latitude: 47.66261 Longitude: -111.7041 *Within project (decimal degrees)*

County: Teton

B. Purpose of Project:

To replace two perched, undersized culverts with a box culvert and reestablish connectivity to the upper stream habitat.

C. Brief Project Description (attach additional information to end of application):

This location was previously a spanning bridge that was lost in the 2018 flood. The road was improperly fixed with two undersized, 5 ft culverts that were not set into the substrate. The perched culverts have reduced fish passage, restricted flows, and are creating a back eddy that is eroding towards the road and increasing downstream turbidity.

With FFIP funding, a new 20 ft box culvert will be purchased to replace the tandem culverts. The culvert will be armored with small spans of riprap to address the ongoing back eddy erosion. Reducing the drop from the perched culverts to the stream will improve juvenile and adult fish passage to upstream habitat at high and low flows. Spring Coulee Creek contains brown trout, brook trout, and rainbow trout, Arctic grayling, Rocky Mountain sculpin, white sucker, longnose dace, longnose sucker, and others.

D. What was the cause of habitat degradation and how will the project correct the cause?

Improper placement of two undersized culverts within a stream. This has led to a partial fish barrier and downstream habitat degradation.

E. Length of stream or size of lake that will be treated (project extent): ~40 ft

Length/size of impact, if larger than project extent (e.g., stream miles opened): 7 miles upstream habitat connected

F. Project Budget Summary:

Grant Request (Dollars):	**$**	**40,830**
Matching Dollars:	**$**	
Matching In-Kind Services:*	**$**	**32,749**
**salaries of government employees are not considered matching contributions*		
Other Contributions (not part of this app)	**$**	**1,587**
Total Project Cost:	**$**	**75,166**

G. Attach itemized (line item) budget – *see budget template*

H. Attach project location map(s) that include:

- [X] Extent of the project, including context (relation to major landmark or town)
- [X] Indication of public and private property
- [ ] Riparian buffer locations and widths (if applicable) and grazing locations

I. Attach project plans:

- [X] Detailed sketches or plan views with the location and proposed restoration
- [X] Pre-project photographs (GPS location strongly recommended)
- [ ] If water leasing or water salvage is involved, attach a supplemental questionnaire (*https://myfwp.mt.gov/getRepositoryFile?objectID=36110*)

J. Attach letters or statements of support (e.g., landowner consent, community or public support, and fish biologist support). List any other project partners:

Sun River Watershed Group

III. MAINTENANCE AND MONITORING (attach additional information to end of application):

A. A 20-year maintenance commitment is required*. Please confirm that you will ensure this protection and describe your approach. Attach any relevant maintenance plans.

Yes	No
X	

**If it is a water leasing project, describe the length of the agreement.*

As part of a managed county road, the Teton County road department will continue to maintain the site in perpetuity.

B. Will grazing be part of or adjacent to the project? If so, describe or attach land management plans, including short term and long term grazing regimes. If the landowner is not the applicant, please describe their involvement in the project. *If you want assistance with grazing plan development, note your need.*

No

C. Will the project be monitored to determine if goals were met? If so, what are the short-term and long-term plans to assess benefits and lessons learned? Were pre-project data collected? Will monitoring information be shared with FWP?

The project will be monitored by FWP by evaluating how flows are passed at high and low water events. Pre-photos have been taken in spring and winter and will be used to compare to post construction events.

IV. PROJECT BENEFITS (attach additional information to end of application):

A. What species of fish will benefit from this project?

Brown trout, brook trout, and rainbow trout, Rocky Mountain sculpin, white sucker, longnose dace, longnose sucker, brook stickleback, and lake chub.

B. How will the project protect or enhance wild fish habitat?

This project will reconnect the lower portion of Spring Coulee Creek (RM 0 to 1.4) and Muddy Creek to the upper portion (RM 1.5 to 7.4). The upper portion of Spring Coulee Creek has improved spawning and rearing habitat. It was a recipient of a Future Fisheries Improvement Project grant in 1998 and sampled by Brad Shepherd in 1998 and 1999. This project will also address the bank erosion that is due to the undersized culverts.

C. What is the expected improvement to fish populations, both short term and long term? How might the project translate to angler success?

Short term impacts would be improved access to spawning and rearing habitat for several fish species. Long term impacts, this project will reduce erosion and widening of the location which would reduce sediment addition into Muddy Creek. Muddy Creek is currently undergoing a large restoration project through the Sun River Watershed Group including targeted efforts to reduce sediment pollution.

D. Will the project increase public fishing opportunity for wild fish and, if so, how? Is public fishing allowed onsite? If not, describe how the public would access the project benefits.

This project will aid the overall fish populations within the upper Muddy Creek drainage where fishing occurs at several public land access locations.

E. Aside from angling, what local or large-scale public benefits will be realized from this project?

Address further downstream turbidity and improve road stability. Current culvert placement is resulting in degradation and erosion of the road.

F. Will the project interfere with water or property rights of adjacent landowners? (explain):

No, this project will reduce river bank erosion of downstream landowner.

G. Will the project result in the development of commercial recreational use on the site (including paid access)? Explain:

No

H. Is this project associated with the reclamation of past mining activity?

No

Each approved project applicant must enter into a written agreement with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks specifying terms and duration of the project. The applicant must obtain all applicable permits prior to project construction. A competitive bid process must be followed when using State funds.

V. AUTHORIZING STATEMENT

I (we) hereby declare that the information and all statements to this application are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my (our) knowledge and that the project or activity complies with rules of the Future Fisheries Improvement Program.

Applicant Signature: [signature] Road Superintendent Date: 11-14-2022

BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

Both tables must be completed or the application will be returned

PROJECT COSTS					CONTRIBUTIONS			
WORK ITEMS (Itemize by Category)	**NUMBER OF UNITS**	**UNIT DESCRIPTION***	**COST/UNIT**	**TOTAL COST**	**FUTURE FISHERIES REQUEST**	**MATCH (Cash or Services)****	**OTHER (Not part of this application)**	**TOTAL**
Personnel***								
Survey				$ -				$ -
Design	20	hrs	$26.45	$ 529.00			$ 529.00	$ 529.00
Engineering				$ -				$ -
Permitting	20	hrs	$26.45	$ 529.00			529.00	$ 529.00
Oversight	20	hrs	$26.45	$ 529.00			529.00	$ 529.00
				$ -				$ -
			Sub-Total	$ 1,587.00	$ -	$ -	$ 1,587.00	$ 1,587.00
Travel								
Mileage	900	miles	$0.55	$ 495.00		495.00		$ 495.00
Per diem	25	per person/day	$8.50	$ 212.50		212.00		$ 212.00
	5 employees	5 days	Sub-Total	$ 707.50	$ -	$ 707.50	$ -	$ 707.50
Construction Materials****								
Culvert	1	each		$ 35,000.00	35,000.00			$ 35,000.00
Rip rap	80	ton	$50/ton	$ 4,000.00	4,000.00			$ 4,000.00
Road fill	50	cubic yards	$15/yard	$ 750.00	750.00			$ 750.00
gravel	60	cubic yards	$18/yard	$ 1,080.00	1,080.00			$ 1,080.00
				$ -				$ -
Ramaker (RSI)	gravel and fill estimates							$ -
Shumaker rip rap estimates 2-3ft pieces				$ -				$ -
				$ -				$ -
				$ -				$ -
			Sub-Total	$ 40,830.00	$ 40,830.00	$ -	$ -	$ 40,830.00
Equipment, Labor, and Mobilization								
Excavator	40	hrs	$200.00	$ 8,000.00		8,000.00		$ 8,000.00
Dump truck	40	hrs	$150.00	$ 6,000.00		6,000.00		$ 6,000.00
Road grater	40	hrs	$200.00	$ 8,000.00		8,000.00		$ 8,000.00
Loader	40	hrs	$200.00	$ 8,000.00		8,000.00		$ 8,000.00
Mobilization	0.05	5% of constructio	$40,830.00	$ 2,041.50		2,041.50		$ 2,041.50
				$ -				$ -
				$ -				$ -
				$ -				$ -
				$ -				$ -
				$ -				$ -
				$ -				$ -
				$ -				$ -

			Sub-Total	$ 32,041.50	$ -	$ 32,041.50	$ -	$ 32,041.50
			TOTALS	$ 75,166.00	$ 40,830.00	$ 32,749.00	$ 1,587.00	$ 75,166.00

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

All of the columns in the budget table and the matching contribution table MUST be completed appropriately or the application will be invalid. Please see the example budget sheet for additional clarification.

*Units = feet, hours, inches, etc. Do not use lump sum unless there is no other way to describe the costs.

**Can include in-kind materials. Justification for in-kind labor (e.g. hourly rates used). Do not use government salaries as match. Describe here or in text.

***The Review Panel suggests that design and oversight costs associated with a proposed project not exceed 15% of the total project budget. If design and oversight costs are in excess of 15%, applications must include a justification or minimum of two competitive bids for the cost of undertaking the project.

****The Review Panel recommends a maximum fencing cost of $1.50 per foot. Additional costs may be the responsibility of the applicant and/or partners.

Additional details:

APPLICATION MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS

(do not include requested funds or contributions not associated with the application)

CONTRIBUTOR	IN-KIND	CASH	TOTAL	Secured? (Y/N)
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
TOTALS	$ -	$ -	$ -	

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

(contributions not associated with the application)

CONTRIBUTOR	IN-KIND	CASH	TOTAL	Secured? (Y/N)
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	
TOTALS	$ -	$ -	$ -	

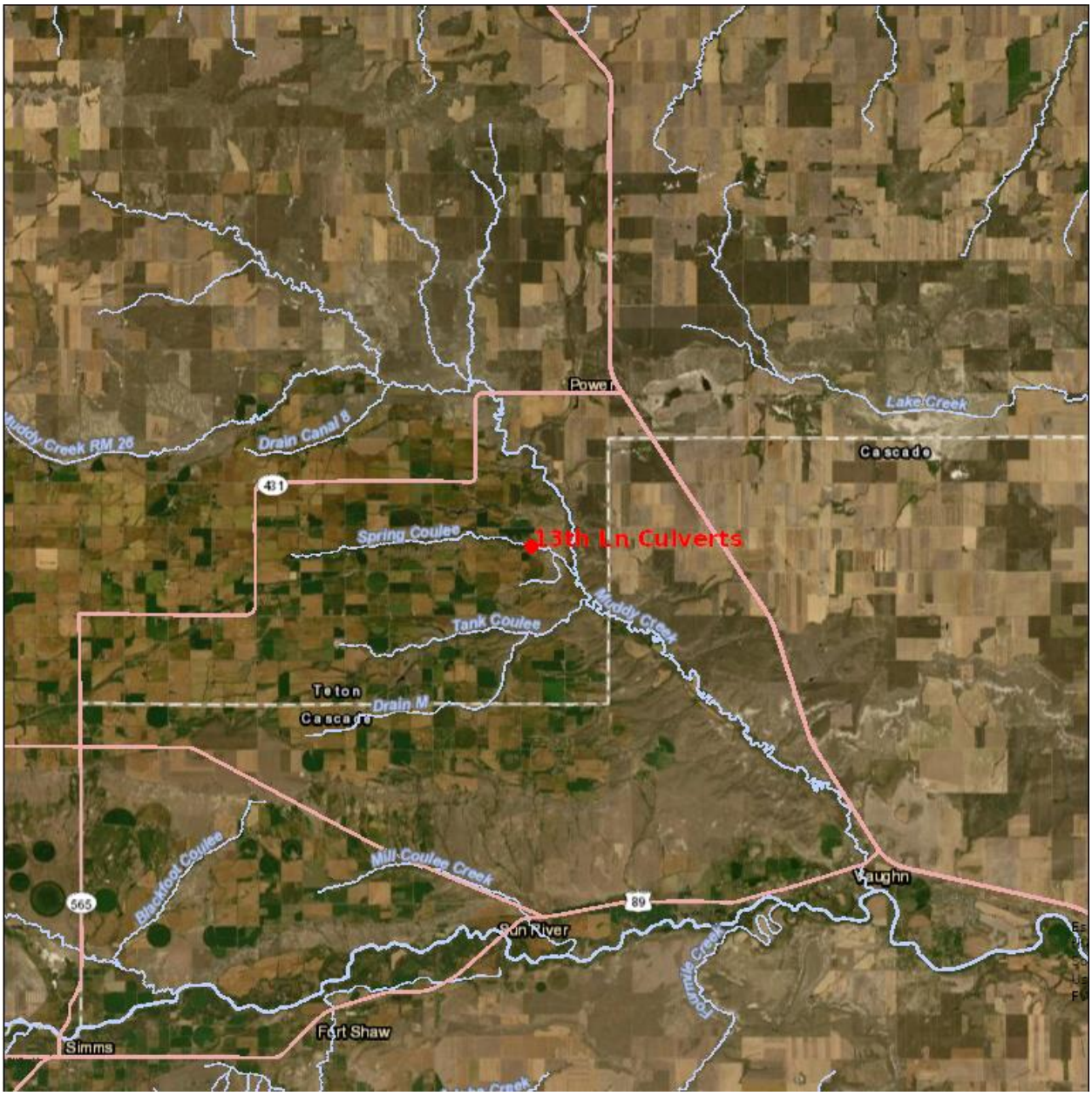

Figure 1. Map of project location

Figure 2. Project extend highlighted in red. Surrounding property is owned by Steven and Salley Young however, the extent of the project lies within the Teton County road rightaway.

Figure 3. Upstream culvert ends at winter flows. Channel widening due to backed up water evident on river left and right.

Figure 4. Upstream culvert ends at spring flows. Exposed geotextile fabric and erosion.

Figure 5. Downstream culvert ends at spring flows.

Figure 6. Downstream culvert ends at spring flows. Channel widening due to backed up water evident on river left.

Figure 7. Downstream culvert ends at winter flows.

Figure 8. Downstream culvert ends at winter flows.

Figure 9. Examples of type of culvert to be purchased. Product availability and final price will determine the purchase of an aluminum box culvert or reinforced concrete box culvert.

SUN RIVER WATERSHED GROUP

November 14, 2022

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Fisheries Division
1420 E. Sixth Avenue
Helena, MT 59620

RE: SPRING COULEE CREEK BOX CULVERT PROJECT

Future Fisheries Panel:

The Sun River Watershed Group (SRWG) would like to express support for the proposed project to install box culverts on Spring Coulee Creek.

Following the loss of a bridge due to 2018 floods, 13th Lane NE was repaired improperly with the installation of two undersized culverts that were not set into the substrate. SRWG was made aware of this situation when an area resident pointed out the perched culverts as a potential fish barrier. SRWG has been casually monitoring the location and noted increased erosion and visible turbidity, likely due to an eddy on the upstream side. SRWG supports the proposed project to install a 20' box culvert to replace the two undersized, improperly installed culverts. This will correct the restricted flows and back-eddy, and will eliminate the perched culverts that are likely creating a fish passage barrier.

Spring Coulee Creek has long been a focus for SRWG. Landowners and anglers frequently observe redds and large fish in reaches of Spring Coulee Creek and FWP has sampled the creek. SRWG has worked for decades with landowners to improve fish habitat on Spring Coulee Creek – some of this work funded by Future Fisheries (1998). Most recently, SRWG and Greenfields Irrigation District completed installation of multiple in-channel and bank structures and repair of aging structures to reduce bank erosion and improve habitat – work completed in the spring of 2022. This culvert project will reconnect Spring Coulee Creek fishes in the lower creek to the restored reaches in the upper creek. *This project is featured in the recently completed Muddy Creek Master Plan, as replacement of these culverts will reduce erosion and improve water quality, in addition to the fisheries benefits.*

SRWG is pleased that our partners are able to lead this project to replace Spring Coulee Creek culverts and looks forward to supporting this work in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Tracy Wendt

Tracy Wendt
Executive Director, Sun River Watershed Group

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