

**FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION***All sections must be addressed, or the application will be considered invalid***I. APPLICANT INFORMATION**A. Applicant Name: Montana Trout UnlimitedMailing Address: PO Box 7186City: Missoula State: MT Zip: 59807Telephone: 406.543.0054 E-mail: chris@montanatu.org

B. Contact Person (if different than applicant): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

C. Landowner and/or Lessee Name (if different than applicant): USDA, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National ForestMailing Address: 420 Barrett St.City: Dillon State: MT Zip: 59725Telephone: 406.683.3861 E-mail: jennifer.mickelson@usda.gov**II. PROJECT INFORMATION**A. Project Name: Blind Canyon Fish Passage BarrierRiver, stream, or lake: Blind Canyon Cr. (Big Hole River Tributary)Location: Township: 07 S Range: R16 W Section: 25Latitude: 45.19101 Longitude: -113.52269 *Within project (decimal degrees)*County: Beaverhead

B. Purpose of Project:

This fish passage barrier project to secure a population of aboriginal, genetically-unaltered Westslope Cutthroat trout (WCT) supports Montana, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks' (FWP) goal of increasing secured WCT habitat to 20% across its native range in the Upper Missouri watershed. This goal is identified in FWP's Westslope Cutthroat Trout Conservation Strategy for the Missouri River Headwaters of Southwest Montana, 2022 and FWP's recently released Fish Plan (2023). Below is FWP's recommendation from their Cutthroat strategy:

To protect this population the Forest Service Road crossing should be modified to create a fish barrier. The road crossing is downstream of the reach where the stream goes dry but preventing fish passage at this location would keep brook trout from ever reaching the cascades. Modification of the culvert outlet would be relatively simple because the stream is high gradient downstream of the crossing. The stream could be excavated and lowered roughly 4 ft and a concrete splash pad could be installed to prevent a pool from forming.

C. Brief Project Description (attach additional information to end of application). Please include the anticipated construction schedule:

Historically, Westslope Cutthroat trout (WCT), along with the Arctic grayling (AG) and Mountain whitefish, we're the only native salmonids in the Upper Missouri River Basin. Due to a myriad of stressors, including mining, logging, habitat fragmentation, and the introduction of non-native species, WCT and AG are only present in single-digit percentages of their native range, east of the Divide. As the stewards of fish and game in Montana, FWP has developed conservation strategies to protect and expand the remaining populations of these once thriving species.

Rising along the Continental Divide in the Beaverhead Range, south of Jackson Montana in the headwaters of the Big Hole River, Blind Canyon Creek harbors an aboriginal population of WCT. To date, a perched culvert on Skinner Meadows Road and periodic drying of the streambed has prevented Brook trout expansion upstream of the road. That culvert is deteriorating and undersized. The drop at the perched culvert is ~2-feet, much lower than the 6-foot drop FWP recommends to protect a population from downstream invasion. This population is one of the last populations in the Big Hole drainage that is recommended for protection in FWP's *Westslope Cutthroat Trout Conservation Strategy for the Missouri River Headwaters of Southwest Montana, 2022*. In 2023, Montana Trout Unlimited (MTU) signed a 7-year memorandum of understanding, #MTU01, to complete native species improvement projects in coordination with and on behalf of FWP.

Along with the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, BDNF, MTU has developed a project to replace the deteriorating culvert with a larger, squash-pipe culvert while increasing the drop at the culvert from ~2-feet to 6-feet, and add a splash to prevent a "jump pool" from forming. The project is planned for implementation in September 2024 if the remaining funding can be secured through the Future Fisheries program. MTU has \$15,000 in a Stewardship Agreement with the BDNF in place to complete this project. MTU staff time and mileage to complete this project is secured through the TU-USFS *Keystone Agreement*. No rotenone treatment will be required to secure this genetically important population.

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

Brook trout invasion is the primary degradation concern. With the advantage of being fall spawners, Brook trout outcompete WCT young-of-the-year (YOY) in tributaries across Montana. The improvement of perched-culvert barrier with a splashpad will ensure that this small, yet important population remains intact.

- E. Length of stream or size of lake that will be treated (project extent): 40 Feet
 Length/size of impact, if larger than project extent (e.g., stream miles opened): ~2.5 miles

F. Project Budget Summary:

Grant Request (Dollars): \$ 20,000

Matching Dollars: \$ 18,400

Matching In-Kind Services:* \$ 2,858

**salaries of government employees are not considered matching contributions*

Other Contributions (not part of this app) \$

Total Project Cost: \$ 41,258

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

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

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

I. Attach project plans:

- ☒ Detailed sketches or plan views with the location and proposed restoration
☒ 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 FWP fisheries support). List any other project partners:

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, George Grant TU

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 ☐

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

This project is on public land and tied into the USFS road system. Little to no direct maintenance is expected besides the occasional road grading.

- 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.*

There is public lands grazing on adjacent USFS property. Grazing will not affect this project.

- 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?

Occasional fish population estimates will be completed by FWP and/or the USFS to ensure Brook trout have not expanded upstream of the perched culvert. Pre-project population and genetic data were taken. FWP has memorialized that data in their Westslope Cutthroat Trout Conservation Strategy for the Missouri River Headwaters of Southwest Montana, 2022. Excerpt below:

<u>Stream (s)</u>	<u>Genetic Report Number</u>	<u>Genetic Class</u>	<u>Rationale for status</u>	<u>Date, Collector, Number Sampled, Type of Test and Results</u>
Big Lake	1005	Genetically Altered	Genetically tested as > 90% WCT	8/22/1994, USFS, Brammer (10 Allozyme) 93.3% WCT 6.7% RB
Blind Canyon	5182	Genetically Unaltered	Genetically tested as 100% WCT	7/01/2020 FWP, Olsen (22 SNP) 100% WCT
	4556			7/19/2012 FWP, Olsen (23 SNP) 100% WCT
	3773			8/27/2008 USFS, Downing (25 Indel) 100% WCT
	1241			7/24/1997 USFS, Roberts (1 Allozyme) 100% WCT

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

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

Genetically-unaltered Westslope Cutthroat trout.

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

This project will protect a genetically-unaltered population of WCT, securing them from non-native species invasion, especially Brook trout, which are prevalent in the area.

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

Short- and long-term, genetically-unaltered WCT will be protected, preserving important genetic variation in the greater Big Hole WCT population. This ensures that this population remains available for WCT restoration and expansion projects. In 2013, individual WCT from Blind Canyon Cr. were used to populate a previously fishless stream in the Big Hole drainage, Dry Cr. increasing angler opportunity.

- 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.

At minimum, this project will maintain a population of wild-native WCT for public benefit. The entire Blind Canyon drainage is on USFS property. This population is being used to improve fisheries across the drainage. Below is an excerpt from the WCT conservation strategy:

In 2020, 5 males from Blind Canyon Creek were collected and crossed with females from Cherry Lake for genetic infusion of wild genes into the Cherry Lake brood source. In 2013, a total of 36 WCT were transported from Blind Canyon Creek and released to Dry Creek (Tributary to Rock Creek, a Big Hole tributary). Subsequent monitoring of Dry Creek indicated the WCT are thriving and filling the over 2 miles of habitat in the stream (2020 data).

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

Preserving the unique adaptation functions of the genetics in this population ensures the specific genetic variability of this population will remain intact. This population could be used to introduce genetic variability to nearby populations. Genetic variability is an important tool for a species to response to environmental changes.

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

No

- 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: _____ Date: 11/13/2023

BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

003-2024

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				\$ -				\$ -
Engineering				\$ -				\$ -
Permitting				\$ -				\$ -
Project MGMT	8 days		\$336.00	\$ 2,688.00		2,688.00		\$ 2,688.00
Maintenance				\$ -				\$ -
			Sub-Total	\$ 2,688.00	\$ -	\$ 2,688.00	\$ -	\$ 2,688.00
Travel								
Mileage	2	Round Trip	\$85.000	\$ 170.00		170.00		\$ 170.00
Per diem				\$ -				\$ -
			Sub-Total	\$ 170.00	\$ -	\$ 170.00	\$ -	\$ 170.00
Construction Materials****								
2'x2'x6' Concrete Blocks	10	ea	\$138.00	\$ 1,380.00		1,380.00		\$ 1,380.00
16'x16'x6" Concrete Splash Pad	1	ea	\$4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	4,000.00			\$ 4,000.00
48"x40' Arched Pipe	1	ea	\$11,500.00	\$ 11,500.00	11,500.00			\$ 11,500.00
3" minus	200	cubic yards	\$10.00	\$ 2,000.00		2,000.00		\$ 2,000.00
3/4" road mix	60	cubic yards	\$10.00	\$ 600.00		600.00		\$ 600.00
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
			Sub-Total	\$ 19,480.00	\$ 15,500.00	\$ 3,980.00	\$ -	\$ 19,480.00
Equipment, Labor, and Mobilization								
Mobilization	1	ea	\$4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	4,500.00			\$ 4,500.00
Cat 316	3	days	\$1,350.00	\$ 4,050.00		\$ 4,050.00		\$ 4,050.00
Belly Dump	3	days	\$700.00	\$ 2,100.00		\$ 2,100.00		\$ 2,100.00
Road Grader	3	days	\$1,100.00	\$ 3,300.00		\$ 3,300.00		\$ 3,300.00
Water Truck	3	days	\$750.00	\$ 2,250.00		\$ 2,250.00		\$ 2,250.00
Roller	3	days	\$750.00	\$ 2,250.00		\$ 2,250.00		\$ 2,250.00
Labor for Constructing Splash Pad	1	ea	\$470.00	\$ 470.00		\$ 470.00		\$ 470.00
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
			Sub-Total	\$ 18,920.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 14,420.00	\$ -	\$ 18,920.00
TOTALS				\$ 41,258.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 21,258.00	\$ -	\$ 41,258.00

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

003-2024

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 may require a justification or minimum of two competitive bids for the cost of undertaking the project. For projects that include a maintenance request, it must not exceed 10% of the total project cost.

****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)
MTU via Stewardship Agreement with USFS	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	Y
MTU via Keystone Agreement with USFS	\$ 2,858.00	\$ -	\$ 2,858.00	Y
George Grant TU	\$ -	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,400.00	N
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS	\$ 2,858.00	\$ 18,400.00	\$ 21,258.00	

Plan to apply in December

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS				
(contributions not associated with the application)				
CONTRIBUTOR	IN-KIND	CASH	TOTAL	Secured? (Y/N)
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	



SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

Cost estimate for BLIND CANYON SPLASH PAD

Materials

- 10- 2'X2'X6' CONCRETE BLOCKS
 - 16'x16'x6" CONCRETE SPLASH PAD
 - 48"X 40' ARCHED PIPE WITH BAND
 - 200 CUBIC YARDS OF 3" MINUS
 - 60 CUBIC YARDS OF ¾" ROADMIX
- \$19,480**

Equipment/Labor

- CAT 316 EXCAVATOR
 - LABOR FOR CONSTRUCTING SPLASH PAD
 - BELLY DUMP TRUCK
 - ROAD GRADER
 - WATER TRUCK
 - ROLLER
- \$14,420**

Mob/Travel

- Transport of equipment to job site
 - Transport of material to job site
 - Travel time to job
- \$4,500**

Total Cost-\$38,400

The cost for this project if material was hauled from Darkhorse turn off would be **\$35,250**

If you have any questions please let me know.

Thanks,

Nate Helle

R.E. Miller and Sons

nhelle24@gmail.com

Mobile (406)660-0119

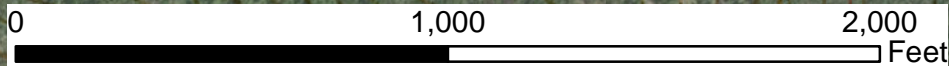
Office (406)683-2175




Blind Canyon Crossing

5 miles to Van Houten

Crossing Location 48" CMP

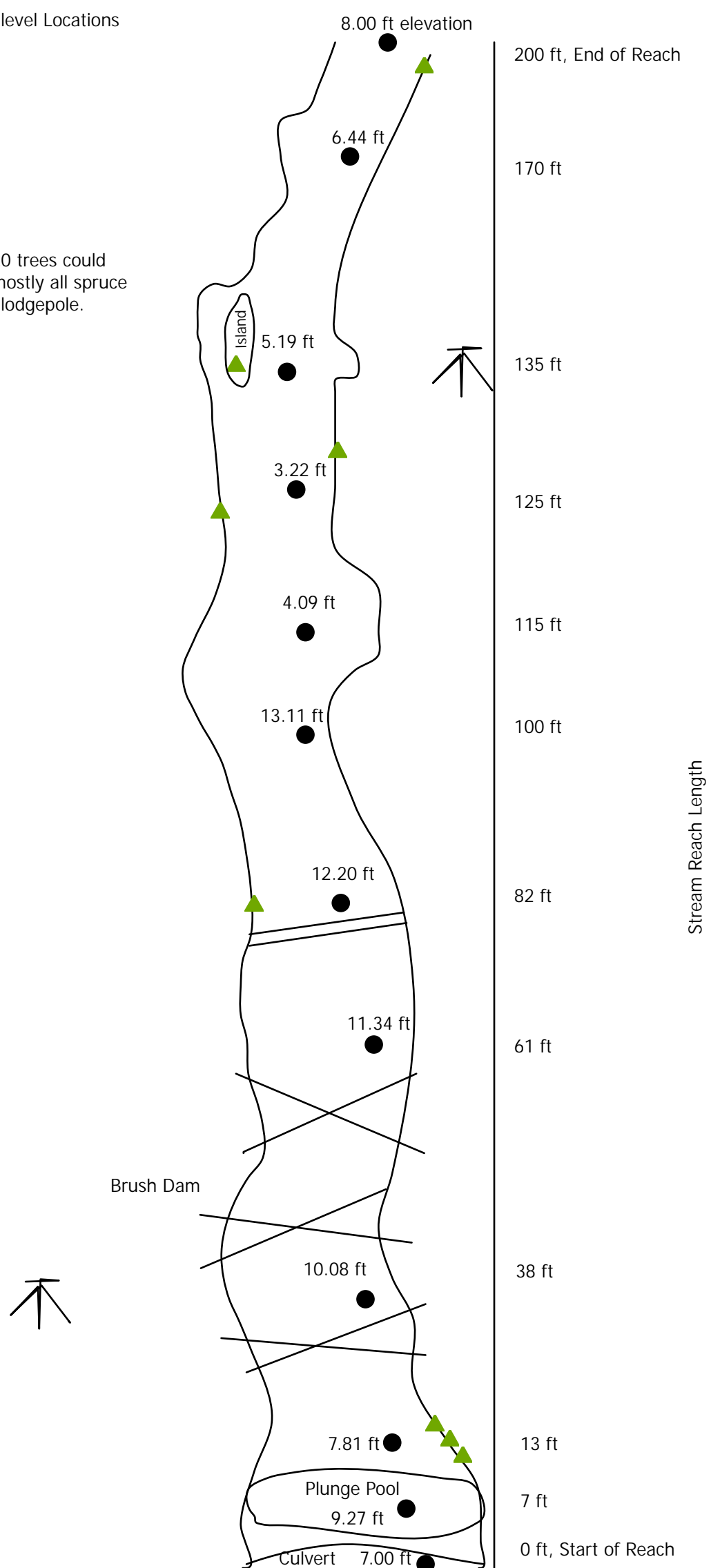
Aproximatly 250' down to
Big Hole River 5.7% grade



-  Trees that are overhanging the stream
-  Elevation Locations
-  Auto-level Locations

Approximately 20 trees could need removal, mostly all spruce trees and some lodgepole.

Slope: 5.7%



Notes: Blind Canyon Barrier Enhancement

Channel is on a fan of coarse material that goes subsurface at lower flows. Substrate below the existing culvert is really coarse.

A cutthroat population exists upstream of the pipe, so the assumption is that the road-stream crossing serves as part of the barrier. The subsurface flow is likely a significant component as well, particularly for fall spawning fish like brook trout.

The existing culvert has a relatively high rust line and developed plunge pool in the coarse material, suggesting flows are quite high relative to the pipe size. This might make us lean toward a solution that replaces the existing pipe to add more capacity, particularly since the pipe is much smaller than the channel width and is prone to plugging and overtopping. This will likely require the road elevation to be raised at the crossing to provide minimum cover over a new pipe.

Adding a replacement structure with more width and lower rise (CMPA) would help with capacity and debris issues. It could also be placed at a slightly higher invert elevation and lower gradient as to increase the jump height at the outlet. See Slides 2 and 3. Raising the invert would cause aggradation in the upstream channel that would need to be evaluated for the upstream channel cross section. See Slide 4.

The drop at the pipe outlet is modest, ~2', and should be improved. See Slide 5. The longitudinal profile should corroborate this if the outlet invert and plunge pool tail crest were both surveyed. There is some experimenting to be done with the suggestions above to see how much more jump height could be added with a new structure. A concrete splash pad at the outlet would take away opportunities for leaping fish that now exist.

The companion activity to increase the jump height is to excavate the downstream channel to provide more height from the culvert outlet invert. A key component here would be to maintain an adequate slope and width continuity to ensure sediment is transport through the reach and not deposited in a way that would cause the downstream bed elevation to aggrade. Performing some sort of subsurface investigation downstream will be important to ensure that the same bed characteristics that support subsurface flow are maintained in new channel bed since the subsurface flow is likely a significant contributor to the barrier that exists.

Additional survey information to augment the profile is needed to evaluate alternatives.

Raising the pipe invert will require the road elevation to change. Existing pipe has minimal cover so anything new will be a hump in the road to meet cover requirements.

003-2024







Raising the pipe invert would add more jump height at the outlet.

Outlet perch is not huge, particularly compared to the plunge pool depth. . A concrete splash pad will definitely be a benefit. Anything to help this is good but keeping a coarse bed downstream that goes subsurface is part of the solution.



FWP.MT.GOVTHE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Region 3 Headquarters
1400 South 19th Street
Bozeman, MT 59715

November 15, 2023

Future Fisheries Improvement Program
FWP Fisheries Division
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Future Fisheries Improvement Program Review Panel,

Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks (FWP) supports the proposed Blind Canyon Creek Culvert Barrier Improvement Project as submitted by Chris Edgington of Montana Trout Unlimited. Blind Canyon Creek contains one of 25 remaining unaltered populations of westslope cutthroat trout (WCT) in the Big Hole River. This project would help protect this population from non-native fish in the future. Currently, the headwaters contain an isolated population of WCT, although brook trout have been documented above the road crossing in an intermittent section of stream. It is likely that the intermittency has prevented invasion of the headwaters by brook trout, but many other temporarily isolated streams in Region 3 have been invaded in recent years. After installation of the new culvert, brook trout numbers above the road will be assessed and a small removal may be pursued if deemed necessary.

In the Missouri River Headwaters of southwest Montana (FWP Region 3), FWP and its partners have a conservation goal to restore WCT to 20% of their historically occupied tributary habitat. The primary threat to the species is the presence of nonnative trout such as brook trout and rainbow trout. Of utmost importance are the remaining nonhybridized populations such as the one found in Blind Canyon Creek. It is essential to preserve as many of these populations, as each one contains a unique part of the species' genetic legacy. Besides protecting this population in place and maintaining the number of occupied stream miles, Blind Canyon Creek will serve as a donor source for reintroductions into new habitat in the future.

For questions or concerns, please reach out to the following FWP personnel:

Ryan Kreiner, Region 3 native species biologist (406-683-9310, RKreiner@mt.gov)

Jen Smitham, Region 3 public comment coordinator (406-495-3262, jsmitham@mt.gov)

Sincerely,

Warren Hansen
Acting Region 3 Supervisor

USDA Forest Service

Stewardship Contracting Proposal

Project Name: _____
Region: R-1 Northern Region
Forest: _____
Ranger District: _____

Primary Forest Service Project Contact

Name: _____
Title: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Proposal Type	Y/N
New IRTC	
New IRSC	
New Stewardship Agreement	
Transfer and expend retained receipts within a previously approved stewardship project (New Service contract in approved project area)	
Transfer and expend retained receipts in a new stewardship project (New service contract outside of an approved project area)	

A.1 Project Summary/Objectives: *Provide a brief summary of your project. Summary should*

Westslope cutthroat trout (WCT) in the upper Missouri River drainage occupy less than 5% of their historically occupied habitat. Many of the remaining populations are at risk of extirpation due to small population size and threats of competition, predation and hybridization with non-native trout species. There are a total of 47 remaining WCT populations in the Big Hole drainage. Of the 47, at least 39 are considered at risk. The first objective in the Memorandum of Understanding for the Conservation of Cutthroat Trout, which the US Forest Service is a signatory, is to conserve existing non-hybridized populations of WCT in their natal habitat. Blind Canyon Creek is a tributary to the Big Hole River near the headwaters. It is identified as a conservation population of WCT with 100% pure genetics. The population is currently at risk due to expansion of non-native species upstream. The culvert on Road #381 currently acts as a partial barrier but has been identified as being possible to pass fish upstream during high flow events. The Forest Service and Montana FWP have determined that installing a new culvert at this location along with a splash pad was necessary for the long-term success of the structure in protecting the unaltered population upstream in Blind Canyon Creek. This would secure approximately 2 miles of Blind Canyon Creek for native WCT. We are asking for \$15K to purchase a new squash culvert, install it at the road/stream crossing to create a 4-6 foot waterfall that prevents the upstream migration of nonnative species, and install a hardened splash pad (e.g. rock or concrete) to prevent erosion and the formation of a pool at the outlet. We estimate that the project will cost approximately \$15,000, but if funding remains, we will allocate the rest of the funding to another barrier location in the Big Hole River watershed.

The original \$15,000 as part of this stewardship project were for three fish barriers on Browns, Buffalo and Painter Creeks in the Upper Beaverhead River watershed. Those barriers were installed in September of 2022. The contractor hired through Montana TU honored their original quote for the project, so the additional \$15,000 was not needed for the project. We are requesting to switch the funding to the Blind Canyon Project which is also a high priority for conservation.

Jackson, Montana.

A.3 Size of Project Area: *(FSH 2409.19§61.16)*

Area of disturbance is approximately 1 acre.

A.4 Proposed Activities: *Describe the activities proposed to be accomplished with your project. (FSH 2409.19§61.2 Exhibit 01, 02)*

Land Management Goal	Estimated acres/miles	¹ Estimated unit cost \$	Description of activity
² a.Reforestation: Planting FS Admin Planting (\$) FS Exam/Survey			
1. Road and Trail maintenance/obliteration to restore or maintain water quality			
2. Soil productivity , fish, wildlife and other resource restoration			
3. Prescribed fire to maintain forest health			

4. Vegetation management to promote healthy forest stands and or reduce hazardous fuels			
5. Watershed restoration/maintenance			
6. Restoration and maintenance of wildlife and fish habitat	2.0	\$15,000	Installation of a new squash pipe and splash pad on Blind Canyon Creek (Road #381)
7. Control of noxious and exotic weeds and re-establishment of native plant species			

¹For IRTC's or IRSC's this is the estimated cost per acre to pay a contractor to do the work. Sources for estimates could include past contracts or local knowledge. For proposals expending retained receipts through a service contract, break out contract costs separately from direct FS salary/admin/supply costs. Direct FS Salary/Admin/supply costs should not exceed 10% of the project cost.

²Estimated acres and costs associated with what would have previously been collected and paid for with K-V funding. Planting costs will be paid for with retained receipts, exams and surveys will be paid for with appropriated dollars. Direct FS Salary/Admin/supply costs that are paid for with SSCC should not exceed 10% of the project cost. Reforestation may also be counted in other lines as appropriate.

A.5 Authorities Being Used:

Authority	Mark if being Used
Goods for Services	
Designation by Description or Prescription	
Retention of Receipts	
Best Value Contracting	
Multi-year Contracting	
Less than free and open competition *	
Non- USDA administration of timber sales	

*Will require special Regional Forester approval, summarize why you need this authority.

A.6 Current Status: *Include a summary of the NEPA status, sale preparation, and of the collaboration accomplished to date and/or collaboration planned. (Refer to FSH 2409.19§61.12 for collaboration requirements).*

The district ranger has concluded that this project falls under road maintenance and therefore is categorically excluded from a NEPA decision. The project is slated to be implemented during the summer/fall of 2023. This is a collaborative project with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and Montana Trout Unlimited. Montana TU will be contracting the work and Montana FWP has provided support and in-kind funding to the project. We currently have an agreement with Montana TU for the work to be performed. Collaboration with district specialists was also a key component to ensure there were no effects to other resources.

B.1 Project Funding and Budget:

Please estimate the value of Goods by completing the following table; (add lines to the table as needed) (FSH 2409.19§61.4, FSH 2409.19§62.3)

Product Type (Saw timber, non-saw timber and nonconvertible material)	Quantity or Volume to be Removed (CCF or Tons)	Value of material to be Removed (from feasibility or appraisal)
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
Total		\$

Activity ¹	Goods (+)	Services (-)
Product Value (Total - from above table)	\$	
Total Project Reforestation Cost (from Table A.4 Line a.)		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
Addition of Retained Receipts ² Source Stewardship Project (s) -	\$	
Totals	\$	\$

¹Group activities by type of treatment; fuel reduction, road closures, wildlife habitat improvement, pre-commercial thinning to restore old growth characteristics, etc. (Format similar to part A.4).

²List IRTC's that the receipts were retained on (SSCC funding source).

Please provide the source of any additional funds you anticipate using for the project. Applies to IRSC's, Service Contracts, and Stewardship Agreements. (FSH 2409.19§66)

Forest Service Appropriations	\$
Cooperator Contributions	
In-cash	\$ 5,000
Donated Services	\$
Other (<i>specify</i>)	\$

B.2 Monitoring: *Please list any proposed project-level if any, monitoring the Forest itself will undertake on this project, monitoring utilizing Collaborative Group members, or other approaches to complete project monitoring (FSH 2409.19§68).*

Once the barrier is constructed periodic surveys will occur to ensure a stable and genetically unaltered population persists in the streams. This project will also be tracked through updates to the multi-agency Westslope Cutthroat Trout Status and Conservation within the Upper Missouri River Sub-basins of Southwest Montana Report. Furthermore, periodic inspections of the fish barrier will ensure effectiveness and long-term stability of the structure will occur. Monitoring will be conducted by the US Forest Service and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

C.1 Timeline: (estimated)

Activity	Estimated Date Completed (month/yr)
NEPA	N/A
Layout	N/A
Contract submittal ¹	N/A
Contract package complete	N/A
Advertise	N/A
Award	N/A
Contract completion (termination) date	N/A

¹ Recommended dates: AQM April 1st; Timber - Schedule with forest CO; Grants and Agreements – Schedule with your Forest G&A specialist; RO – Schedule with Stewardship Coordinator, usually 2-3 weeks' required for review.

SIGNATURE AND CONCURRENCES:

Prepared By:

_____ Signature	_____ Title	_____ Date
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District Ranger Concurrence:

_____ Signature	_____ Date
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Timber Contracting Officer Concurrence (IRTC/IRSC):

_____ Signature	_____ Date
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AQM Contracting Officer Concurrence (IRSC):

_____ Signature	_____ Date
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Forest Supervisor Concurrence:

_____ Signature	_____ Date
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Regional Stewardship Coordinator Concurrence:

_____ Signature	_____ Date
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Director of Forest Management Concurrence:

_____ Signature	_____ Date
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Regional Forester Approval:

_____ Signature	_____ Date
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