017-2024



II.

**FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION** All sections must be addressed, or the application will be considered invalid



### I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Α.	Applicant Name:		
	Mailing Address:		
	City:	State:	Zip:
	Telephone:	E-mail:	
B.	Contact Person (if different than applicant):		
	Addresse		
	City:		Zip:
	Telephone:		
C.	Landowner and/or Lessee Name (if different than applicant):		
	Mailing Address:		
	City:	State:	Zip:
	Telephone:	E-mail:	
PR	OJECT INFORMATION		
Α.	Project Name:		
	River, stream, or lake:		
	Location: Township:	Range:	Section:
	Latitude:	Longitude:	Within project (decimal degrees)
	County:		
В.	Purpose of Project:		

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

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

F.	Project Budget Summary:
	Grant Request (Dollars): \$
	Matching Dollars: \$
	Matching In-Kind Services:* \$
	*salaries of government employees are not considered matching contributions
	Other Contributions (not part of this app) \$
	Total Project Cost: \$
G.	Attach itemized (line item) budget – see budget template
Н.	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 ( <u>https://myfwp.mt.gov/getRepositoryFile?objectID=36110</u> )
J.	Attach letters or statements of support (e.g., landowner consent, community or public support, and fish biologist support). List any other project partners:

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

A 20-year maintenance commitment is required*. Please confirm that you will ensure this protection and describe your approach. Attach any relevant maintenance plans.
*If it is a water leasing project, describe the length of the agreement.

Will grazing be part of or adjacent to the project? If so, describe or attach land management plans,B. 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.* 

Yes

No

Will the project be monitored to determine if goals were met? If so, what are the short-term and

C. long-term plans to assess benefits and lessons learned? Were pre-project data collected? Will monitoring information be shared with FWP?

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

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

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

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

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.

Public fishing is allowed on Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge and will be maintained. Fishing opportunity will be enhanced by improved habitat on the Refuge.

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

This project presents a major outreach and education opportunity. The work will take place on an ADA-accessible walking trail that is heavily used by Bitterroot residents, out-of-state visitors and nature education programs. We will take advantage of this opportunity through public tours, signage and collaboration with education programs (e.g. Trout in the Classroom, Montana Natural History Center Visiting Naturalist). Additionally, the riparian restoration will benefit migratory songbirds, a primary goal of the Refuge and partners like Bitteroot Audubon.

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:	Christine Brissette	Digitally signed by Christine Brissette DN: cn=Christine Brissette, o=Trout Unlimited, ou, email=cbrissette@tu.org, c=US Date: 2022.11.09 16:09:19 -07'00'	Date:	11/15/2023
----------------------	---------------------	---	-------	------------

Submittal: Applications must be signed and received on or before November 15 and May 15 to be considered for the subsequent funding period. Late or incomplete applications will be rejected.

Mail to:	FWP Future Fisheries	Email:	Future Fisheries Coordinator
	Fish Habitat Bureau		FWPFFIP@mt.gov
	PO Box 200701		(electronic submissions must be signed)
	Helena, MT 59620-0701		For files over 10MB, use https://transfer.mt.gov and send
			to mmcgree@mt.gov

### BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

Both tables must be completed or the application will be returned

	Р	ROJECT COSTS						RIBUTIONS	
WORK ITEMS (Itemize by Category)	NUMBER OF UNITS	UNIT DESCRIPTION*	COST/UNIT	Т	OTAL COST	FUTURE FISHERIES REQUEST	MATCH (Cash or Services)**	OTHER (Not part of this application)	TOTAL
Personnel***				•					•
Survey				\$	-				\$-
Design				\$	-				\$ -
Engineering				\$	-				\$ -
Permitting Project Management				\$	-			-	\$ -
(Trout Unlimited)	400	hours	\$56.00	¢	22,400.00			22,400.00	\$ 22,400.00
Oversight (River Design	400	nouis	\$30.00	φ	22,400.00			22,400.00	φ 22,400.00
Group)	200	hours	\$120.00		24,000.00			24,000.00	
				\$	-				\$-
			Sub-Total	\$	46,400.00	\$-	\$-	\$ 46,400.00	\$ 46,400.00
<u>Travel</u>		T	1 1					I	
Mileage	1000	miles	\$0.63	-	625.00			625.00	-
Per diem				\$	-				\$-
			Sub-Total	\$	625.00	\$-	\$-	\$ 625.00	\$ 625.00
Construction Materials**	***	T	1 1					I	
Wood for bank			<b>•</b> · · · • • • • •	•					• • • • • • • •
treatments		Lump Sum	\$11,200.00		11,200.00	11,200.00			\$ 11,200.00
Willow cuttings	13720		\$1.00		13,720.00	13,720.00			\$ 13,720.00
Plants Foncing (worlded wine	350	EA	\$6.00	\$	2,100.00			2,100.00	\$ 2,100.00
Fencing (welded wire, 5x100 roll)	20	EA	\$185.00	¢	5,550.00			5 550 00	¢ 5 550 00
T-posts	30		\$185.00		2,100.00			5,550.00 2,100.00	\$ 5,550.00 \$ 2,100.00
Upland seed		lbs	\$6.00						
Floodplain seed		lbs	\$13.75		453.75			453.75 2,700.00	\$ 453.75 \$ 2,700.00
Weed mat	30		\$90.00		2,700.00 1,050.00			1,050.00	\$ 2,700.00 \$ 1,050.00
weed mat	350	EA	\$3.00		1,050.00			1,050.00	\$ 1,050.00 \$ -
			Sub-Total	\$ \$	- 38,873.75	\$ 24,920.00	\$-	\$ 13,953.75	Ŧ
Equipment, Labor, and	Mehilization		Sub-Total	Ф	30,073.75	<b>р</b> 24,920.00	<b>р</b> -	\$ 13,953.75	\$ 38,873.75
Mobilization		Lump Sum	\$25,000.00	¢	25,000.00			25,000.00	¢ 25.000.00
Site Prep and	1		ຈ∠ວ,000.00	Φ	25,000.00		-	25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Dewatering	1	Lump Sum	\$35,000.00	\$	35,000.00	16,250.00		18,750.00	\$ 35,000.00
Earthwork- levee and									
floodplain grading	373	cubic yards	\$50.00	\$	18,650.00	9,830.00		8,820.00	\$ 18,650.00
Remove check dam and culverts	1	EA	\$5,000.00	\$	5,000.00			5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Provide 6-inch minus fill	482	CY	\$25.00	\$	12,050.00			12,050.00	\$ 12,050.00

#### BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

				1					1	
Provide Category 1 rock	50	EA	\$60.00	\$	3,000.00			3,000.00	\$	3,000.00
Provide 12"-18" rip rap	140		\$100.00		14,000.00			14,000.00		14,000.00
Provide 1.5-inch minus					,			,		,
road base	11	CY	\$75.00	\$	825.00			825.00	\$	825.00
Provide asphalt surfacing	70	SY	\$50.00	\$	3,500.00			3,500.00	\$	3,500.00
Assemble and install box					,			,		,
culvert	1	Lump Sum	\$30,000.00	\$	30,000.00	22,000.00		8,000.00	\$	30,000.00
Bank treatments	944	Linear ft	\$30.00	\$	28,320.00			28,320.00	\$	28,320.00
Install willow trenches	1800	Linear ft	\$7.50	\$	13,500.00			13,500.00	\$	13,500.00
Remove reed canary	4 400	0)(	<b>• 1 - 0</b>	•	05 004 00			05 004 00	•	05 004 00
grass	1493	CY	\$17.00	\$	25,381.00			25,381.00	\$	25,381.00
Floodplain microtopography	0.73	acre	\$3,000.00	\$	2,190.00	2,190.00		-	\$	2,190.00
Provide Misc quantities (silt fence, bulk bags, HDPE bypass	1	Lump Sum	\$3,500.00	\$	3,500.00			3,500.00	\$	3,500.00
Aluminum Box Culvert		Lump Cum	\$0,000.00	Ψ	0,000.00			0,000.00	Ψ	0,000.00
Fabrication & Delivery	1	lump sum	\$100,000.00	\$	100,000.00		75,190.00	24,810.00	\$	100,000.00
Revegetation Site Prep	16	hours	\$195.00	\$	3,120.00			3,120.00	\$	3,120.00
Planting and fencing (contractor)	72	hours	\$55.00	\$	3,960.00			3,960.00	\$	3,960.00
Planting and fencing										
(volunteers)	320	hours	\$29.95	\$	9,584.00			9,584.00	\$	9,584.00
				\$	-				\$	-
			Sub-Total	\$	336,580.00	\$ 50,270.00 \$	75,190.00	\$ 211,120.00	\$	336,580.00
			TOTALS	\$	422,478.75	\$ 75,190.00 \$	75,190.00	\$ 272,098.75	\$	422,478.75

#### OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

<u>All of the columns in the budget table and the matching contribution table MUST be completed appropriately or the application will be invalid.</u> 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:

### BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

### **APPLICATION MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS**

(do not include requested funds or o	contribut	ions not asso	ciated	d with the applica	tion)	)	
CONTRIBUTOR	IN	I-KIND		CASH		TOTAL	Secured? (Y/N)
US Fish & Wildlife Service (Fish Passage Program)	\$	-	\$	75,190.00	\$	75,190.00	Y
	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
TOTALS	\$	-	\$	75,190.00	\$	75,190.00	

10	THER CONT	<b>FRIBUTIO</b>	NS			
(contribut	ions not associa	ted with the ap	plicat	ion)		
CONTRIBUTOR		N-KIND		CASH	TOTAL	Secured? (Y/N)
Bitterroot Chapter of Trout Unlimited	\$	9,584.00	\$	20,000.00	\$ 29,584.00	Y
Future Fisheries						
Improvement Program			\$	39,970.00	\$ 39,970.00	Y
Recreational Trails						
Program			\$	69,602.00	\$ 69,602.00	Y
US Fish & Wildlife Service (Fish Passage Program)	\$	-	\$	124,810.00	\$ 124,810.00	Y
Private donors	\$	-	\$	65,822.75	\$ 65,822.75	Y
Westslope Chapter of Trout Unlimited	\$	-	\$	7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	Y
Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge			\$	10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	Y
	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	
	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	
	TOTALS \$	9,584.00	\$	337,704.75	\$ 347,288.75	

Photopoints: Reconnecting North Burnt Fork Creek on Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge (Trout Unlimited)



This relic water control structure near the mouth of North Burnt Fork Creek, prevents fish passage and obstructs natural sediment and flow processes. This barrier will be removed and replaced with a pedestrian bridge.



View of North Burnt Fork Creek, looking downstream towards the water control structure. from the water control structure proposed for removal, and the area proposed for intensive revegetation.



View of North Burnt Fork Creek, looking upstream from the water control structure. Sediment accumulated above the structure limits aquatic habitat while reed canary grass prevents recruitment of native trees and shrubs, reducing stream shade and bank stability.



The northern channel of North Burnt Fork Creek which dewaters most summers. In this proposal this channel will be recontoured into a series of wetland swales, activated at high flows. Reed canary grass will be removed, and revegetation will occur.

## NORTH BURNT FORK CREEK FISH PASSAGE RESTORATION PROJECT LEE METCALF NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE 100% DESIGN PLAN SET

#### **PROJECT PARTNERS**



P.O. BOX 7186 MISSOULA, MT 59807



U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERV 115 W 3RD ST STEVENSVILLE, MT 59870

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

LEE METCALF NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (REFUGE), ESTABLISHED ON FEBRUARY 4, 1964, IS A 2,800-ACRE REFUGE LOCATED IN THE BITTERROOT RIVER VALLEY OF SOUTHWEST MONTANA. THE REFUGE IS KNOWN FOR ITS VARIED HABITAT, INCLUDING PONDS, FLOODPLAINS, RIVERINE WOODLANDS AND GRASSLANDS, WIHCH SUPPORT A WIDE RANGE OF WATERFOWL, NEOTROPICAL SONGBIRDS, RAPTORS, REPTILES, AMPHIBIANS, MAMMALS AND FISH SPECIES. THE REFUGE'S WATER RESOURCES ARE AMONG ITS MOST IMPORTANT ASSETS AND INCLUDE A 2-MILE REACH OF NORTH BURNT FORK CREEK AND OVER 5 MILES OF BITTERROOT RIVER FRONTAGE. IN ADDITION TO ITS NATURAL RESOURCE AMENITIES, THE REFUGE PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PUBLIC TO ENJOY COMPATIBLE WILDLIFE-DEPENDENT PUBLIC USE ACTIVIES INCLUDING HUNTING, FISHING, WILDLIFE OBSERVATION AND PHOTOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, AND INTERPRETATION.

IN 2012, THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ADOPTED THE LEE METCALF NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION PLAN (CCP). THE CCP DIENTIFIED THE OVERARCHING VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF THE REFUGE, AND INCLUDED SPECIFIC GOALS TO HELP ACHIEVE THIS VISION, INCLUDING:

- TO MANAGE AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, RESTORE THE NATURAL TOPOGRAPHY, WATER MOVEMENTS, AND PHYSICAL INTEGRITY OF SURFACE WATER FLOW PATTERNS ACROSS THE BITTERROOT RIVER FLOODPLAIN TO PROVIDE HEALTHY RIPARIAN HABITATS FOR TARGET NATIVE SPECIES.
- TO EDUCATE VISITORS ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF SUSTAINING A MORE NATURAL FLOODPLAIN.
- TO PROVIDE VISITORS OF ALL ABILITIES WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN AND ENJOY QUALITY, COMPATIBLE WILDLIFE DEPENDENT RECREATION, ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, AND INTERPRETATION PROGRAMS THAT FOSTER AN AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING THE NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE REFUGE.

TO ACHIEVE THE REFUGE'S VISION, THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH TROUT UNLIMITED, RETAINED RIVER DESIGN GROUP, INC. TO PREPARE A PRELIMINARY RESTORATION DESIGN WITH THE AIM OF ENHANCING STREAM AND FLOOPLAIN HABITAT, WATER QUALITY, AND FISH PASSAGE NEAR THE WILDLIFE VIEWING AREA IN THE REFUGE'S SOUTHERN EXTENT. THE DRAWINGS CONTAINED IN THIS PLAN SET REPRESENT A 50% DESIGN-LEVEL EQUIVALENT AND ARE INTENDED TO SUPPORT NEXT STEPS INCLUDING PUBLIC OUTREACH, ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE, FINAL DESIGN, AND REGULATORY PERMITTING.

#### **REUSE OF DRAWINGS**

THESE DRAWINGS, THE IDEAS AND DESIGNS INCORPORATED HEREIN, AS AN INSTRUMENT OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE, ARE THE PROPERTY OF RIVER DESIGN GROUP, INC., (ROGA AND ARE NOT TO BE USED. IN WHOLE OR IN PART, FOR ANY OTHER PROJECT WITHOUT THE WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION OF ROG. UNEWISE, THESE DRAWINGS MAY NOT BE ALTERED OR MODIFIED WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION OF ROG. DRAWING DUPLICATION IS ALLOWED IF THE ORIGINAL CONTENT IS NOT MODIFIED. LEE METCALF NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE VICINITY MAP



LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SW 1/4 NE 1/4 S15 T9N R20W, P.M., M RAVALLI COUNTY, MONTANA

#### DRAWING INDEX

5.2

60

61

7.0

- COVER SHEET AND NOTES
- 2.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS
- 3.0 RESTORATION PLAN

1.0

- 3.1 MATERIALS AND QUANTITIES
- 4.0 ACCESS, STAGING AND SURVEY CONTROL
- 4.1 WORK AREA ISOLATION PLAN
- ... OFFSITE FILL REPOSITORY
- 5.0 PLAN AND STRUCTURE LAYOUT
- 7.2 WORK AREA ISOLATION DETAILS 8.0 CULVERT DETAILS

REVEGETATION PLAN

REVEGETATION PLAN DETAILS

7.1 FLOODPLAIN ROUGHNESS DETAIL

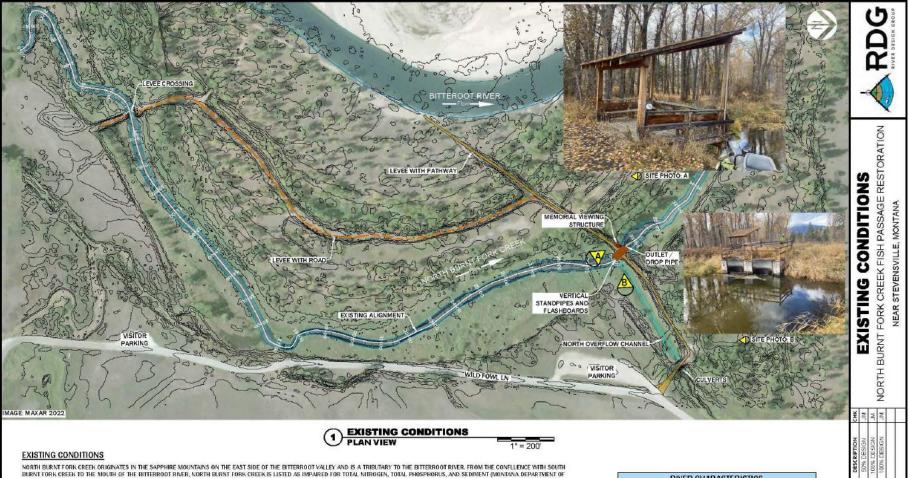
VEGETATED WOOD MATRIX DETAIL

5.1 NORTH LEVEE CHECK DAM REMOVAL PLAN

NORTH LEVEE GRADING PLAN AND PROFILE

- NORTH BURNT FORK CREEK FISH PASSAGE RESTORATION NOTE AND SHEET COVER 1 2 2
- ание станает станает

Drawing



EXERT FOR CEER TO THE MOUTH OF THE BUTTERROOT REAL ADDRESS OF THE SETSING OF THE

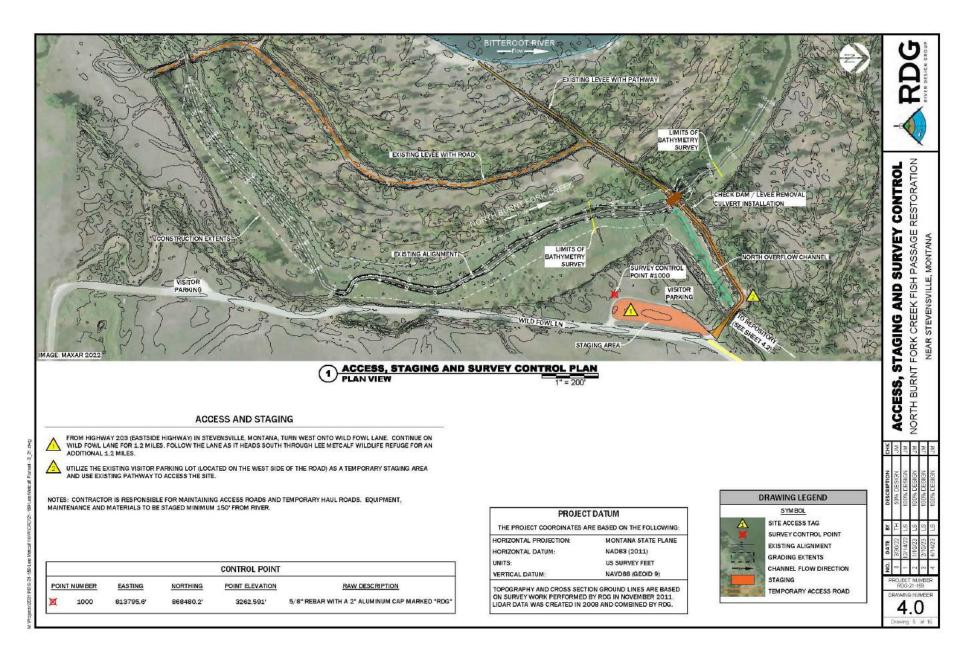
AN EXISTING LEVES SYSTEM EXISTS IN THE PROJECT AREA, THE LEVEE SYSTEM PROVIDES \$1000 PORTECTION FOR THE REFUGE, AND PORTIONS OF THE LEVEE FORM AN ADA.COMPLIANT WALKING TRAIL. THE LEVES AND TRAIL SYSTEM HAVE BEEN COMPRONISED BY ACCELERE SYSTEM PROVIDES \$1000 PORTECTION FOR THE BITTERROOT RIVER, REMOVAL OF PORTIONS OF THE LEVEE SYSTEM TO REACTIVATE FORESTED FLOOPLAIN SURFACES AND SIDE CHANNEL HARITATS WAS IDENTIFIED AS A REFUGE GOAL. IN THE COP. LEVEE REMOVAL WILL REACTIVATE REFUGE BOAL SUBJECT STATUS AND SUBJECT AND DISTRIBUTION OF FLOW, NUTRIENTS, AND SOBMENTS ACROSS FLOODPLAIN SURFACES AS WELL AS PROMOTE NATURAL REGENERATION OF FLOOPLAIN REVENTING PROCESSES INCLUDING THE TRANSPORT AND DISTRIBUTION OF FLOW, NUTRIENTS, AND SOBMENTS ACROSS FLOODPLAIN SURFACES AS WELL AS PROMOTE NATURAL REGENERATION OF FLOOPLAIN VIGETATION' INFEST EMENTS WILL BE CONSIDERED BAGNART THE VALUARE LISER ACCESS CURRENTLY PROVIDED BY THE LEVEE SYSTEM.

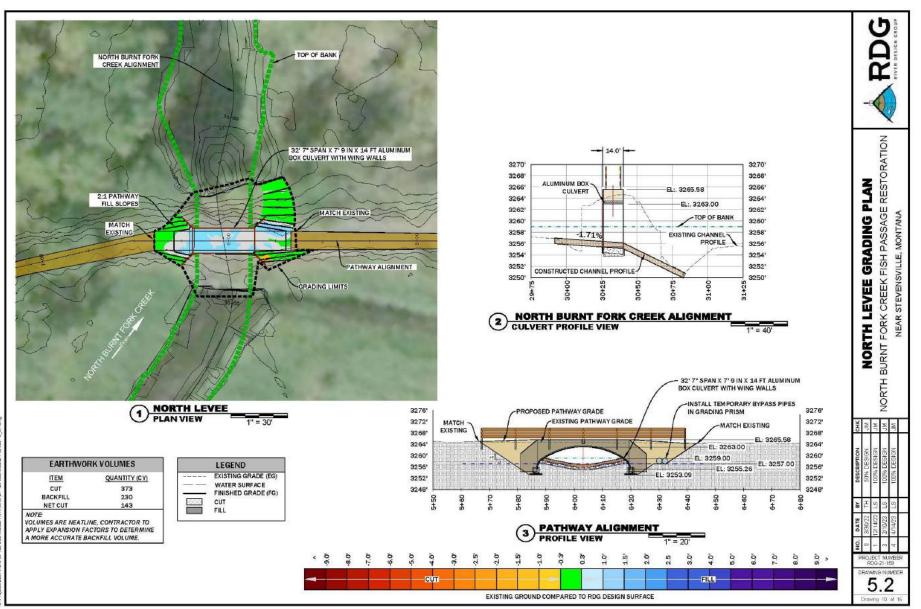
RIVER CHARACTERISTICS					
DRAINAGE AREA	91 SQUARE MILES				
MEAN ANNUAL PRECIPITATION	30 INCHES				
STREAM GRADIENT	0.02%				
STREAMBED D50	COARSE SAND				
STREAM TYPE	C5/E5				
25 YEAR DISCHARGE (4% EXCEEDANCE)	1,060 CF5*				

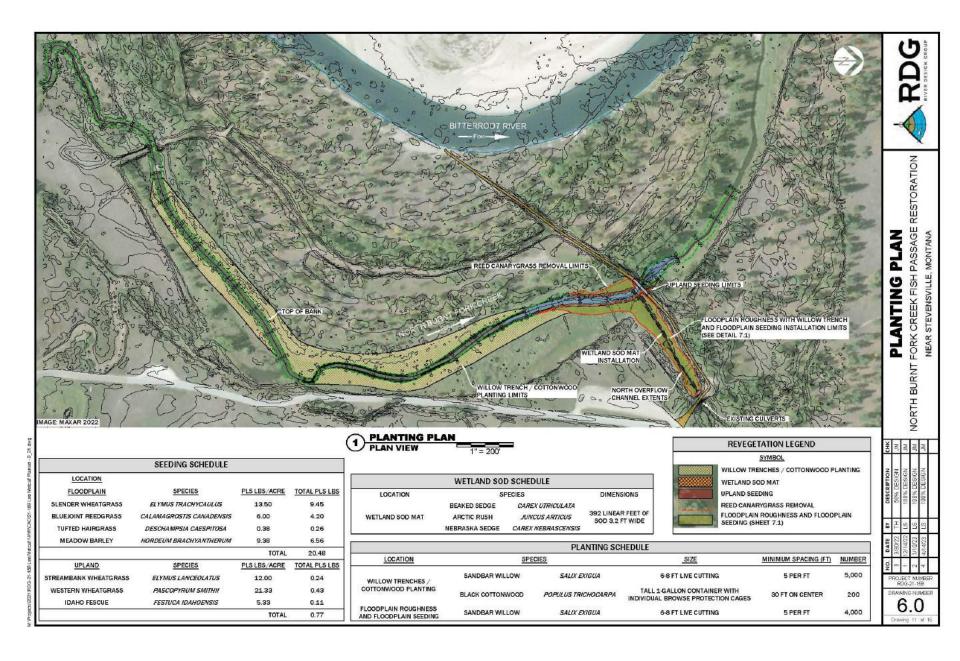
\*DERIVED FROM USGS WESTERN REGIONAL REGRESSION CURVES

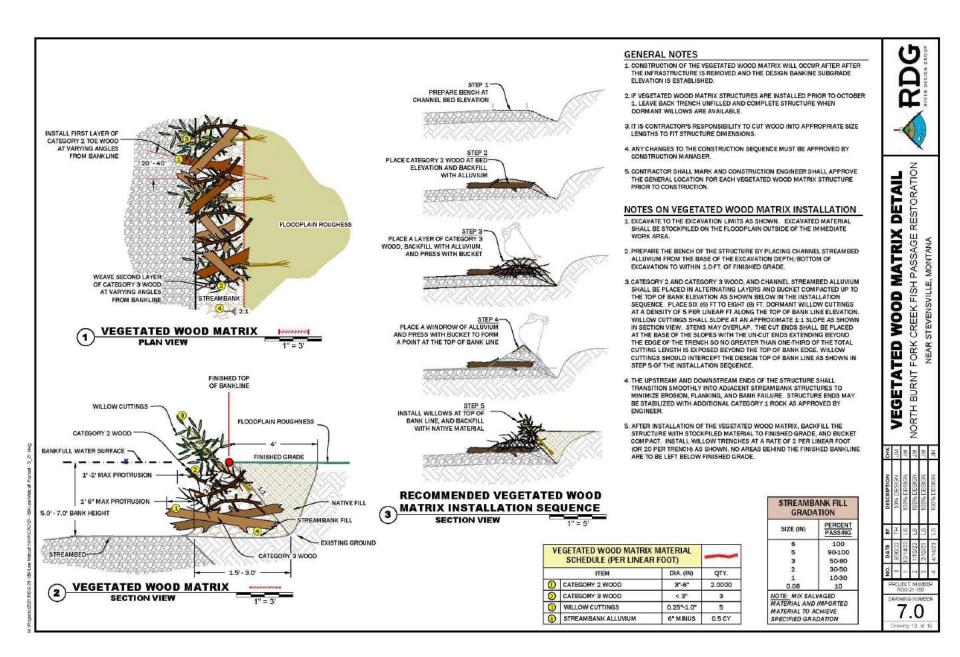
PROJECT NUMBER RDG-21-159

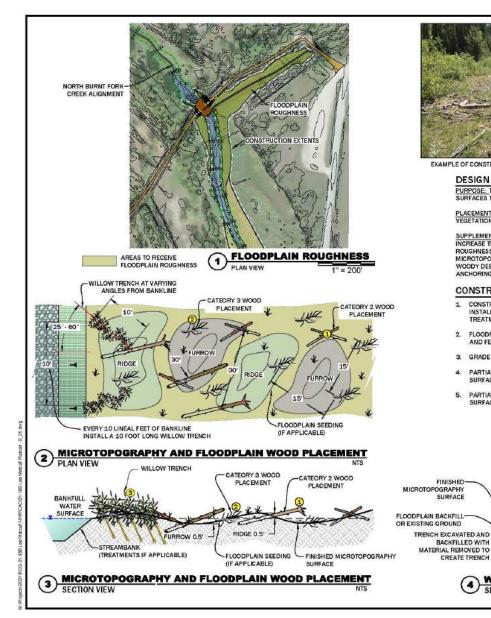
DRAWING NUMBER













EXAMPLE OF CONSTRUCTED FLOODPLAIN ROUGHNESS



EXAMPLE OF WILLOW TRENCH

#### DESIGN INTENT

PURPOSE: THE PURPOSE OF THIS TREATMENT IS TO CREATE CHARACTERISTICS ON NEWLY CONSTRUCTED FLOODPLAIN SURFACES THAT ARE SIMILAR TO THE CONDITIONS ON NATURAL, VEGETATED FLOODPLAIN SURFACES.

PLACEMENT CRITERIA: TREATMENTS ARE APPLIED TO FLOODPLAIN SURFACES THAT LACK ROUGHNESS ELEMENTS AND VEGETATION

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: FLOODPLAIN ROUGHNESS TREATMENTS REDUCE THE RISK OF SURFACE EROSION AND INCREASE THE RETENTION OF SEDIMENT AND NUTRIENTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RIPARIAN VEGETATION. FLOODPLAIN ROUGHNESS IS APPLIED USING TWO METHODS: (1) MICROTOPOGRAPHY GRADING AND (2) WOODY DEBRIS PLACEMENT. MICROTOPOGRAPHY GRADING WILL CREATE AN UNEVEN SURFACE OF FURROWS AND RIDGES ON THE FLOODPLAIN. WOODY DEBRIS WILL PROVIDE STABILITY AND CONTRIBUTE ORGANIC MATTER TO FLOODPLAIN SOILS. PROPER ANCHORING OF WOODY DEBRIS IS REQUIRED TO PREVENT MOVEMENT DURING OVERBANK FLOWS.

#### CONSTRUCTION NOTES

FINISHED-

SURFACE

BACKFILLED WITH

CREATE TRENCH

WILLOW TRENCH

SECTION VIEW

- CONSTRUCTION OF FLOODPLAIN TREATMENT WILL OCCUR AFTER CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHANNEL STREAMBED, INSTALLATION OF LARGE WOOD STRUCTURE BANK TREATMENT, INSTALLATION OF VEGETATED WOOD MATRIX BANK TREATMENT.
- 2. FLOODPLAIN ROUGHNESS CONSTRUCTION AFTER FINISHED FLOODPLAIN GRADING AND PRIOR TO SEEDING, PLANTING AND FENCING.
- 3. GRADE FURROWS AND RIDGES INTO THE FINISHED FLOODPLAIN GROUND SURFACE.
- PARTIALLY BURY CATEGORY 2 WOOD INTO FURROWS AND RIDGES WITH ONE HALF THE WOOD LENGTH BELOW THE 4 SURFACE.
- PARTIALLY BURY CATEGORY 3 WOOD INTO FURROWS AND RIDGES WITH ONE HALF THE WOOD LENGTH BELOW THE Б. SURFACE.

(PER ACRE)							
ITEM		DIA.	LENGTH	QUANTITY (EA)			
1	CATEGORY 2 WOOD	3" · 6"	10'-12'	50	EA		
2	CATEGORY 3 WOOD	<3"	10'-12'	50	EA		

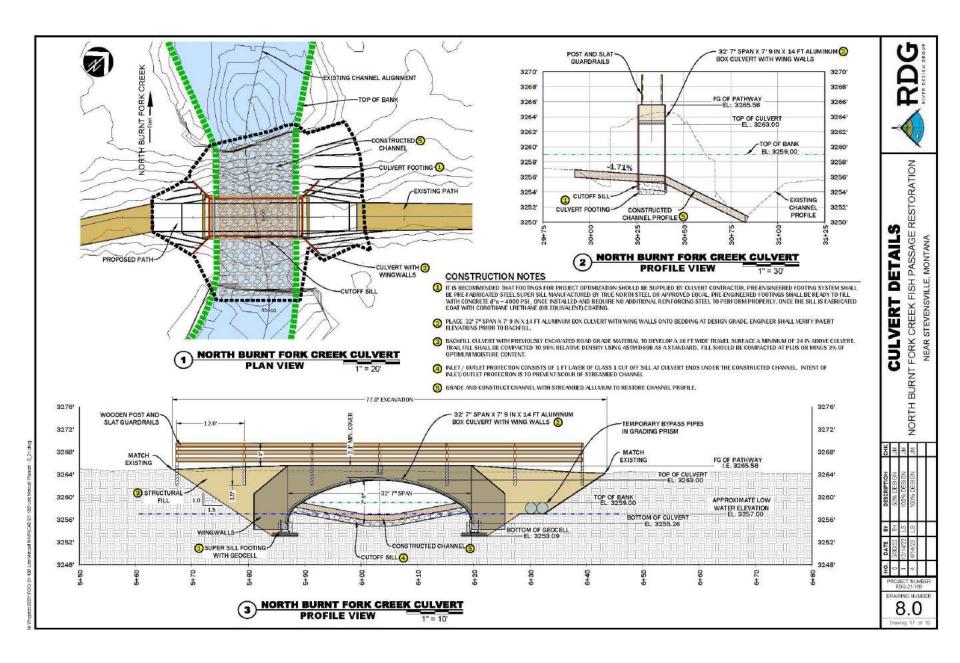
WI	LLOW TRENCH MA	AND		
	ITEM	DIA	LENGTH	QUANTITY (EA)
3	WILLOW CUTTINGS	0.25" - 1"	6' - 8'	5





TION CHK	SIGN	IESIGN JM	SIGN JM			
DESCRIPTION	50% DES	10 0% DES	100% DES			
RY.	Ŧ	S	ŝ			
DATE	3/30/22	12/14/22	4/14/23			
NO.	0	1	4			
P	PROJECT NUMBER RDG-21-159					

Drawing 14 of 18



FWP.MT.GOV



THE OUTSIDE IS IN US ALL.

Region 2 Headquarters 3201 Spurgin Road Missoula, MT 59804 Phone 406-542-5500

November 7, 2022

Future Fisheries Improvement Program c/o Michelle McGree Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks P.O. Box 200701 1420 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Helena, MT 59620-0701

### **RE:** Reconnecting North Burnt Fork Creek on Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge

Dear Future Fisheries Panel:

I am writing in support of the *Reconnecting North Burnt Fork Creek on the Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge* application submitted by Christine Brissette of Trout Unlimited. This barrier removal and habitat enhancement project is an important step toward improving connectivity and fish habitat conditions in lower North Burnt Fork Creek. This work will complement other completed and planned restoration actions in the Burnt Fork drainage and is expected to provide a number of public benefits.

North Burnt Fork Creek was historically an important spawning tributary for trout occupying the middle Bitterroot River, including native westslope cutthroat trout and bull trout. However, the man-made barrier present on the Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge a few hundred feet from the stream mouth has effectively blocked fish passage and altered ½ mile of habitat for over 50 years. The investment into restoring connectivity and habitat conditions at this site will not only contribute to restoring the quality of aquatic resources in North Burnt Fork Creek, but it will also help improve trout recruitment to the Bitterroot River by opening access to an additional 2.5 miles of spawning and rearing habitat. The middle Bitterroot is considered to be recruitment limited, which is a direct result of the lack of quality spawning and rearing tributaries in the reach. Improving connectivity and habitat conditions in larger streams like North Burnt Fork Creek is one of the most attainable solutions we have to help improve recruitment of fish to this portion of the river.

In addition to having direct fisheries benefits, this project also offers a great opportunity for public outreach regarding riparian health and the importance of tributaries as critical spawning and rearing habitat. The location of this project is within a public recreation area on the Lee

Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge that sees numerous visitors each and every day. Outreach and interpretive signage will be educational for many of the visitors frequenting the site. This will create a more informed public in an area of the state that is seeing rapid population growth and increased development pressures placed on our stream and riparian resources.

Please contact our Fisheries Biologist, Jason Lindstrom, with any questions for FWP regarding this project.

Jason Lindstrom, Fisheries Biologist Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Phone: (406) 529-8058 Email: <u>Jason.Lindstrom@mt.gov</u>

Thank you for considering funding this application.

Sincerely,

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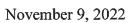
Randy Arnold Fish, Wildlife & Parks Regional Supervisor, Region 2 <u>rarnold@mt.gov</u> (406) 542-5504



# United States Department of the Interior

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Lee Metcalf Wildlife Refuge 4567 Wildfowl Lane Stevensville MT, 59870 (406) 777-5552



Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Future Fisheries Review Panel 1420 East Sixth Avenue P.O. Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620

Dear Future Fisheries Review Panel:

I am writing to you in support of Trout Unlimited's (TU) grant application for the:<u>North Burnt</u> <u>Fork Creek Culvert Removal and Restoration</u> project. Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) has worked with TU for the past three years in planning for this fish passage removal in an important bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) spawing tributary to the Bitterroot River. Trout Unlimited identified historic channel migration and modification of the Bitterroot River and North Burnt Fork Creek near the confluence of these two watersheds and has identified the historic alignment for reconnection of North Burnt Fork Creek. The Refuge fully supports the proposed project as it accomplishes a number of the resource goals identified in our 2012 Comprehensive Conservation Plan. Specifically, the project would:

1) Restore natural topography, surface water flow patterns, and channel integrity across the Bitterroot floodplain within the Refuge;

2) Remove relic infrastructure that stores sediment, impedes natural hydrology, and impedes fish passage up North Burnt Fork Creek for 2 ½ miles from its mouth with the Bitterroot River;

3) Provide excellent opportunities to interpret to the public the value of natural river migration and ecological processes;

4) Enhance native fisheries habitat, including cutthroat (*Oncorhynchus clarkia*) and bull trout habitat on lower North Burnt Fork Creek as well as enhance the public's fishing opportunities through this portion of the Refuge.

5) Provide an opportunity to restore and enhance the riparian corridor along the historic channel of North Burnt Fork Creek and interpret that restoration to the public.

The completed project would enhance native fish habitat on lower North Burnt Fork Creek and serve as a demonstration area for further riparian restoration upstream and off of public land.



The Refuge fully supports this grant application and is enthusiastic about the prospects of restoring this section of riparian habitat on the Refuge.

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Please contact me if I can provide any additional information. Thank you.

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Sincerely,

Tom Reed Refuge Manager



P. O. Box 262

Hamilton, MT 59840

November 2, 2022

Future Fisheries Review Panel Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks 1420 East 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue PO Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620-070

**RE: Future Fisheries Grant** 

Greetings:

I am the president of the Bitterroot Chapter of Trout Unlimited. This is a letter of support for a Future Fisheries Grant by Christine Brissette of Trout Unlimited. Bitterroot TU supports Trout Unlimited's efforts to remove a fish passage barrier and improve habitat on North Burnt Fork Creek. Over the past three years, we have provided funding for the initial development of this project. Our chapter has been very involved in helping to plan and fundraise for this important project. We have volunteers lined up who will execute the more than 300 hours that will be needed to do the planting related to this project.

BRTU has a long history of involvement in education programs in the Bitterroot Valley. Our Buggers program has been conducted annually for nearly 30 years. The program helps young students learn the basics of stream entomology, fly tying, and fly fishing. Hundreds of people in our area have completed this program over the years.

This year we have expended our Trout in the Classroom (TIC) program to four high schools in the Bitterroot Valley. Trout in the Classroom exposes science classes to the science involved in successfully hatching and raising trout from fertilized to a releasable size. Management of the water quality and chemistry is a major part of the effort. At the end of the school year the fish are released into a local pond under supervision of the local FWP biologist.

We plan to have the TIC classes visit the Lee Metcalf Wildlife Preserve and see the details and impacts of the project.

Regards,

David Ward, President Bitterroot Trout Unlimited