

**Montana Department  
of  
Fish, Wildlife & Parks**



**MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT**

**Project Title:** Montana Rivers Information System (MRIS)  
**Project Number:** BPA 38573, MDFWP 3874-7 and 3874-9  
**Project Manager:** Janet Decker-Hess  
**Project Biologist:** Gael Bissell  
**Recreation Technician:** Denise Davies  
**Report for the Month:** April 1991

**1. Summary of significant results.**

**Project Management and Fisheries:** Met with Region One biologists and updated reach file and data for Swan River drainage and the Middle and North forks of the Flathead River. Updated the cross-reference file to reflect those changes. Reviewed fisheries data form, made extensive changes and completed instructions. Continued to work on report writer software for data entry from maps.

Mapped and added stream reaches with new fisheries data in Big Hole and Ruby rivers. Tagged special fishing regulations to streams by EPA code.

Denise Davies and I attended and presented information on MRIS at River Recreation Managers meeting in Great Falls. Meeting was attended by federal and state river managers and department fisheries and park administrators. Drafted LCA budget sheets for department accounting for FY92. Investigated purchase of new larger faster computer; currently have four employees on one computer.

Finished and prioritized data and information needs assessment for fisheries division. Update of stream and lake interagency data bases and related files were four of the top six priorities identified by fisheries managers and administrators. Wrote letters to fisheries administrators requesting programming and technical support for the updates, which was met with positive response. Received programming needs for the updates.

**Wildlife:** Finished cross-reference file of wildlife and EPA River Reach Number.

**Recreation:** Attended National Park Service/MDFWP Greenway workshop in Helena. Input original recreation data into new data structure.

**NRIS:** Received missing hydrography data from the Portland USGS, we now have hydrography data at 100K for the state.

## REQUESTS FOR MONTANA RIVERS INFORMATION SYSTEM DATA

- DNRC Any information concerning wetlands in Montana.
- DNRC Any data for the mainstems of the Clark Fork River, Flathead River, North Fork, Middle and South forks of the Flathead and for the Bitterroot River.
- DNRC Any data for the Porcupine Creek area.
- DSL Rivers and heritage data for the following: Nyhard Mining, York area, Bannock area, and the Virginia City area.
- FWP Recreation information from the Rivers database for that portion of the Milk River.
- PC Fisheries evaluation for many rivers in western Montana. Include the Beaverhead, Smith, Madison, Big Hole, Gallatin, East Gallatin, Jefferson, Clark Fork, Bitterroot, Blackfoot, Rock Creek, Little Blackfoot, Yellowstone above Laurel, and Missouri above Great Falls. Also needs MRIS data for these rivers and a list of USGS flow stations for each one.
- PC Needs a document pertaining to navigation on the Milk, and a copy of the rivers report for the reach.
- PI Information relating to application to the Department of State Lands for the mining operation in the York area. Conducting a wildlife evaluation of the area. Needs clarification of the wildlife sections of the rivers.
- PI Needs information for a DSL permit for an expansion of a cement plant and associated quarries in the Three Forks area. Needed is information on mining, land use, geology, ground water, surface water, climate data, wildlife, vegetation and fisheries.
- PNP Needs a full Heritage and MRIS data search for geological data (OCLC, Index, Butte), archeology, and cultural resources, specifically as they pertain to Native American cultural and spiritual uses up to approximately 50 years ago.

### 2. Brief discussion major problems encountered, changes in work plan, or schedule deviations.

None.

### 3. Short description of planned activities for the following month.

**Project Management and Fisheries:** Finish update of Region One streams for interagency data base and begin Region Two. Discuss GIS potential applications and other data needs of MRIS and related data bases with fisheries administrators. Complete necessary budget request for FY92. Meet with Helena and regional staff on future GIS applications using appropriated monies from Legislature. Line out new technician.

**Recreation:** Begin locating and inputting new recreation data. Submit application to NPS for boater's survey grant.

**NRIS:** Jim Stimson will place calls to Portland USGS to obtain RRN GIS coverage for western Montana. Estimate hours and costs update the enhanced 250K DLG. Jim Senkler will work on duties as outlined in revised time estimates. Peter Langen will handle all requests.

**4. Itemized listing of each non-expendable item greater than \$1,000 and each designated sensitive item.**

None.

c: Tom Pansky, BPA (3 copies)	Peter Paquet, NWPPC (Portland)
Dave Genter, Natural Heritage	Jim Stimson, NRIS
Larry Lockard, USFWS	Dan Hinkley, BLM (Billings)
Joë DosSantos, CSKT	Bob Haburchak, BLM (Billings)
Paul Hanson, U of M	Terry Lonner, R-3
Rick Stowell, USFS (Missoula)	Don Childress, Pat Graham, Fay Moore
Howard Johnson, Larry Peterman	Chris Hunter, Jim Domino
John Fraley, Gael Bissell	Dan Vincent, Denise Davies

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