

EXHIBIT 5

DATE 1/21/05

HB 7

Reclamation & Development Grant Program (RDGP) Proposal

Yellowstone River Resource Conservation Project



Custer County Conservation District

Fiscal Agent for

**Yellowstone River Conservation
District Council**

The Council:

- Formed in 1999 to serve as the Local Sponsor for the Corps of Engineers led Cumulative Effects Study of the Yellowstone River
- Ensures a *Montana voice* in the planning, conducting of the scientific studies and developing final recommendations
- Thirteen members from 11 Montana and one North Dakota County Conservation Districts bounding the Yellowstone River, plus one Montana Assn of Conservation Districts representative

The Council's purpose is to provide local leadership, assistance, and guidance for the wise use and conservation of the Yellowstone River's natural resources. This purpose was founded on three fundamental precepts: 1) the need for sound scientific information on which to base management decisions; 2) the need for broad based local, regional, and national input; and 3) the need for technical and financial assistance to address sustainable use issues on the Yellowstone River.

The Vision:

- *A healthy river and riparian system capable of sustaining the needs of Montana citizens and communities.*

The Cumulative Effects Study:

- Authorized by Congress in the 1999 Water Resources Development Act "to determine the hydrologic, biological and socioeconomic cumulative impact on the river."
- Cost Share: 75% Federal / 25% Local (Montana)

The Grant Proposal:

- ***\$299,965 will fund three components of the Cumulative Effects Study***
- *Geomorphology, historical aerial photo acquisition & cumulative effects assessment*
- ***Geomorphology:*** Conduct a detailed geomorphic analysis to identify and describe river channel stability, erosion, and sedimentation and compare historic and current channel processes for select reaches
- ***Historic Aerial Photos:*** Assemble and process historic aerial photography in a consistent geographical information system (GIS) for use in the geomorphic analysis and other study components
- ***Cumulative Effects Assessment:*** Conduct a cumulative effects assessment to develop an interdisciplinary scientific characterization of relationships between human activities and associated river system response.

The Economics:

- ***The \$299,965 will leverage nearly \$900,000 in federal funding***
- Montana resources will be used to the maximum extent, such as:
 - o MSU & MSU- Billings for biological and socioeconomic studies
 - o State Library Natural Resources Information System for GIS design and web site hosting
 - o Montana contractors for geomorphology reconnaissance

Budget Summary by Project/Objective Area

Expense Category	RDGP		Outside Sources (Federal)	Total
Geomorphic analysis 250 miles @ \$920 per/mile	\$183,000		\$47,100	\$230,100
Cumulative Effects Analysis: Training – 2 days @\$ 2,000/day Facilitators – 4days@ \$500/day Lit Review – 80 hrs@ \$50/hr	\$10,000		\$90,000	\$100,000
Cumulative Effects Assessment/ BMP Development 340hrs@ \$50/hour	\$17,000		\$108,000	\$125,000
Historic Aerial Photo Purchasing	\$24,000		\$22,000	\$46,000
Historic Aerial Photo Scanning/Orthorectification 2 complete sets: 450 RM @ \$80/mi + 4 partial sets: 250 RM @\$80/mi	\$36,000		\$36,000	\$72,000
Grant Administration \$21/hr.for 762 hours	\$ 14,000			\$ 14,000
Salaries, wages, benefits, travel, communications, supplies, etc.	\$15,965		\$113,124	\$129,089
Rent and utilities			\$34,810	\$34,810
Total	\$299,965		\$451,034	\$750,999

YRCDC has made effective and efficient use of State of Montana funding

- RDGP Grant awarded in 2001 (RIT-02-8636) – Amended August 2004
 - o Rapid Aerial Assessment / Physical Features Inventory
 - Mapped all man-made structures on the Yellowstone River
 - o 310 Permit Review
 - Linked 310 permits to Physical Features Inventory
 - o Reconnaissance Investigations
 - Geomorphology & Fisheries completed 2004
 - Defined the Representative Reaches that will be studied
 - o Topographic Mapping (Merrick contract)
 - Precise Topographic maps and floodplain maps for Dawson, Yellowstone and Stillwater Counties
 - Combined Council's RDGP funds with RRG (Renewable Resource Grant) funds provided thru the three counties



Cumulative Effects Study Benefits:

- This multi-year study will assist many river users:
 - Conservation Districts will develop voluntary Best Management Practices to help landowners along the river;
 - Local planners and landowners will be able to identify economic impacts of flood events and flood plain development, and assess how the River will be able to sustain current and future activities;
 - Scientists will be able to identify the biologic and hydrologic impacts of man-made structures.
 - The public and other users will be able to access the Study data on the Internet via *an interactive Geographic Information System (GIS)*.

Other Significant Council Achievements

- o Awarded grants from:
 - MACD Local Empowerment Program (LEP)
 - EPA-regional Geographic Incentives Program
 - EPA/DEQ 319 Grant
 - DNRC 310 Grant
 - DNRC Watershed Planning & Assistance (2 Grants)
 - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Grant
- o Established a Technical Advisory Committee
 - Eight members, Federal State and Private firm employees
- o Established a Resource Advisory Committee
 - Eighteen members representing Upper & Lower River interests
 - Three membership categories
 - Agriculture, industry, commercial
 - Conservation, recreation, academic
 - Elected, municipal, tribal

Contact Information

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