



EXHIBIT 20
DATE Jan 21, 2013
HB 7

MADISON RIVER
-FOUNDATION-

PO BOX 1527 · ENNIS, MT 59729 · 406.682.3148
mrfinfo@3rivers.net · www.madisonriverfoundation.org

January 17, 2013

Natural Resources Committee
Re: HB 7
Funding for Aquatic Invasive Species Plant Survey

Dear Committee Members,

The Madison River Foundation is pleased to offer its support for full funding for an Aquatic Invasive Species Plant Survey on the Missouri Headwaters including the Madison River included in HB7.

Aquatic invasive species pose a grave threat to Montana's rivers and lakes. Montana's blue ribbon fisheries comprise a significant resource that is vital to the state's tourism and outdoor recreation industries. Damage to these resources from aquatic invasive species could have serious ecological and economic impacts on the state.

Surveying, monitoring and mitigating aquatic invasive species poses serious challenges. Vigilance and a proactive approach are vital to protect Montana's valuable aquatic resources. We urge committee members to support AIS funding provisions in HB7.

The Madison River Foundation is a non-profit conservation organization incorporated in Montana, based in Ennis, with member in 42 states.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David E. Bricker

David E. Bricker
President