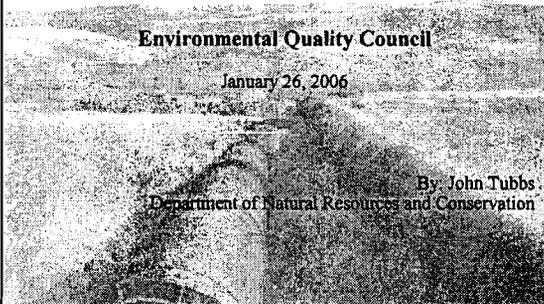


**St. Mary Rehabilitation Project
 Update**

Environmental Quality Council

January 26, 2006

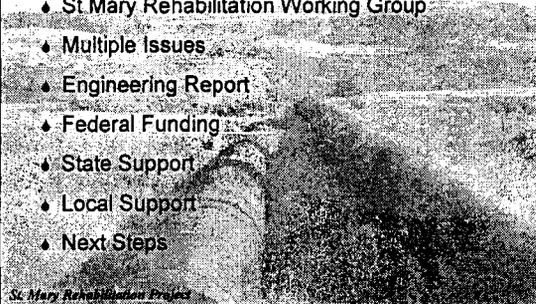
By John Tubbs
 Department of Natural Resources and Conservation



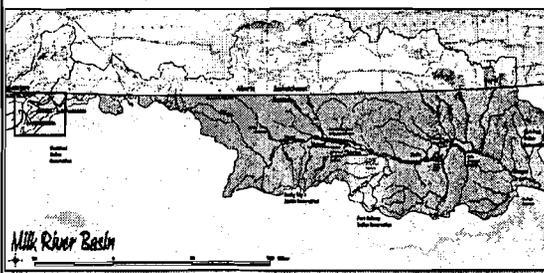
Update on Current Actions

- ◆ Project Area
- ◆ St. Mary Rehabilitation Working Group
- ◆ Multiple Issues
- ◆ Engineering Report
- ◆ Federal Funding
- ◆ State Support
- ◆ Local Support
- ◆ Next Steps

St. Mary Rehabilitation Project



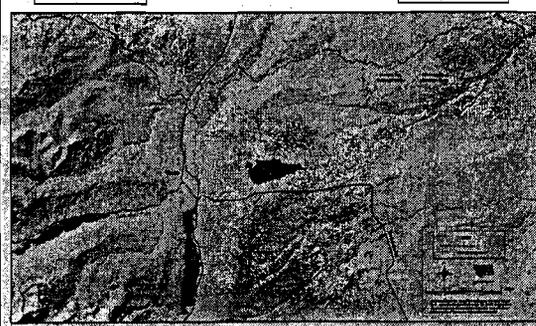
Milk River Basin



St. Mary Rehabilitation Project

Project Area



St. Mary Rehabilitation Project

St. Mary Rehabilitation Working Group
 Lt. Governor John Bohlinger and Randy Reed – Co-chairs
 Larry Mirza – Executive Director

Dave Peterson – Public Works Director, City of Havre	Max Maddox – Chinook Division
Dolores Plumage – Commissioner, Blaine County	Michael DesRosier – Commissioner, Glacier County
Gary Anderson – Chinook	Mike Barthel – MT Waileyes Unlimited
Jim Rector – Valley County Development	Vacant – Blackfeet Tribal Water Resources
John Lacey – Glasgow Irrigation District	Paul Juss – Bear Paw Development Corp.
Kevin Salsbery – Malta Irrigation District	Randy Perez – Tribes of Ft. Belknap Water Resources
Marko Manoukian – Phillips County Economic Growth Council	Randy Reed – Milk River Project Development Association
Matt McCann – Ingator, Harlem	Steven Page – Ingator, Glasgow

St. Mary Rehabilitation Project

Draft Engineering Report

- ◆ TD&H – Great Falls Office – Lead
- ◆ Draft Report Delivered 1/25/06
 - ◆ Preliminary Engineering Report
 - ◆ Hydrologic and Hydraulic Design Report
 - ◆ Geotechnical Studies
 - ◆ Preliminary Economic Analysis
- ◆ Cost \$375,000



St. Mary Rehabilitation Project

Multiple Issues

- St. Mary Diversion Structures
- Blackfeet Water Rights Compact Negotiations
- Ft. Belknap Water Rights Compact Negotiations
- Bowdoin Wildlife Refuge Compact Negotiations
- International Joint Commission – St. Mary Milk
- Aging Infrastructure in the Milk River Basin and on the Blackfeet Reservation

St. Mary Rehabilitation Project

Summary of Federal Support '06 Authority

- \$500,000 from the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- \$8.0 million from the Senate Transportation Committee.
 - Construct a new bridge across the St. Mary River.
 - Address bank stabilization along Switchout and Boulder Creeks

St. Mary Rehabilitation Project

Summary of Federal Support '07 Request

- \$8.5 Million Environmental Impact Statement (SMDF)
- \$2 Million Engineering Services (SMDF)
- \$1 Million Blackfeet Participation In Cultural and Environmental Review (SMDF)
- \$1 Million Milk River Basin Infrastructure Investigation
- \$1 Million Blackfeet Irrigation Project Investigation
- \$750,000 Blackfeet Vocational Training
- \$1.2 Million Ft. Belknap Rural Water Investigation

15.45 Million Total Request

St. Mary Rehabilitation Project

Summary of State Support

- \$100,000 Environmental Contingency Account Grant to start engineering review.
- \$10 million in bonding towards non-federal cost share for construction activities.
- \$500,000 towards non-federal cost share for replacing county bridge over the St. Mary River.
- \$900,000 for engineering studies and support to the St. Mary Working Group.

St. Mary Rehabilitation Project

Summary of State Support

- \$100,000 to install new structural supports and replace expansion joints on Hall's Coulee siphon.
- Funding to support a new senior-level engineering and senior-level hydrologist dedicated to the St. Mary Rehabilitation Project.
- Expending approximately \$10,000/month assisting basin water users and Blackfeet Tribe in their efforts to rehabilitate St. Mary Diversion Facilities.

St. Mary Rehabilitation Project

Summary of Local Support

- \$142,089 in local contributions raised to support the efforts of the St. Mary Rehabilitation Working Group (as of 11/1/05).
- \$101,049 of in-kind contributions of (as of 10/26/05).
- Approximately \$5,565/month spent by members of the St. Mary Rehabilitation Working Group to attend meetings and promote the project.

St. Mary Rehabilitation Project

Next Steps

- Congressional Authorization
 - Two-Draft Concepts
 - Pick Sloan Approach
 - Stand Alone Approach
- Congressional Office Support
- National Water Resources Association
- Family Farm Alliance
- DC Meetings

St. Mary Rehabilitation Project