

MARCH 28, 2007

A joint resolution of the senate and house of representatives of the State of Montana requesting that the State of Montana request that the Department of Defense comes to Montana to evaluate Whitmore Ravine and convince Malmstrom Air Force Base to take responsibility in remediation.

Whereas, Montana Conservation Districts are political subdivisions of the State of Montana created by the legislature in 1939,

Whereas, Conservation Districts main function is to conduct local activities to promote conservation of natural resources,

Whereas, Whitmore Ravine is a natural drainage located on the East end of Great Falls between Malmstrom Air Force Base and the Missouri River,

Whereas, two feasibility studies completed in 2003 and 2005 estimates that 470,000 tons of sediment has entered the Missouri River through Whitmore Ravine,

Whereas, the study also notes that Malmstrom Air Force Base is the only major developed area contributing storm water discharges to the ravine,

Whereas, Malmstrom Air Force Base has a valid storm water discharge permit from the Department of Environmental Quality,

Whereas, the Cascade County Conservation District has diligently worked to form a Whitmore Ravine Task Force with all stakeholders participating,

Whereas, \$48,700 private contributions, local and state tax dollars have been contributed to complete the feasibility studies of Whitmore Ravine with the State of Montana's share being \$30,000 in the form of a coal tax trust fund (223) grant,

Whereas, the feasibility study estimates construction costs at \$2.3 million to solve the erosion problem sediment pollution to the Missouri River,

Whereas Malmstrom Air Force Base claims to be good stewards of the land.

Now, therefore be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Montana:

That the State of Montana formally request from the Department of Defense to acknowledge the damage that storm water from Malmstrom Air Force Base has caused and requires Malmstrom Air Force Base to take financial responsibility and to fully cooperate with the affected landowners and the Cascade County Conservation District to effectively resolve this major natural resource problem.