

HOUSE BILL NO. 6

INTRODUCED BY J. KEANE

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION AND THE OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM; APPROPRIATING MONEY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION FOR GRANTS UNDER THE RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM; PRIORITIZING PROJECT GRANTS AND AMOUNTS; ESTABLISHING CONDITIONS FOR GRANTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Appropriations for renewable resource grants.** (1) For the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, there is appropriated to the department of natural resources and conservation from the natural resources projects state special revenue account established in 15-38-302 up to:

(a) \$100,000 for emergency projects grants to be awarded by the department over the course of the biennium;

(b) \$800,000 for planning grants to be awarded by the department over the course of the biennium;

(c) \$300,000 for irrigation development grants to be awarded by the department over the course of the biennium;

(d) \$300,000 for watershed grants to be awarded by the department over the course of the biennium;

(e) \$75,000 for private grants to be awarded by the department over the course of the biennium;

and

(f) \$500,000 for grants to the following four entities for the described purposes, amounts, and contingencies described in the renewable resource grant and loan program report to the 66th legislature entitled "Governor's Executive Budget Fiscal Years 2019-2021 Volume 6":

Applicant/Project	Amount
Broadwater Conservation District	
Big Springs Ditch Water Conservation, Phase 2	



1		\$125,000
2	Malta Irrigation District	
3	(Exeter Siphon Replacement)	\$125,000
4	Sidney Water Sewer Irrigation District	
5	(Main Canal Pipeline Conversion)	\$125,000
6	Buffalo Rapids Irrigation District 2	
7	(Shirley Main Canal Rehabilitation)	\$125,000

8 (2) The amount of \$3,965,000 is appropriated to the department of natural resources and conservation  
 9 from the natural resources projects state special revenue account established in 15-38-302 for grants to political  
 10 subdivisions and local governments for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019. The funds referred to in this  
 11 subsection must be awarded by the department to the named entities for the described purposes and in the grant  
 12 amounts listed in subsection (4), subject to the conditions set forth in [sections 2 and 3] and the contingencies  
 13 described in the renewable resource grant and loan program January 2019 report to the 66th legislature.

14 (3) Funds must be awarded up to the amounts approved in subsection (4) in the following listed order  
 15 of priority until available funds are expended. Funds not accepted or used by higher-ranked projects must be  
 16 provided for projects farther down the priority list that would not otherwise receive funding. If at any time a grant  
 17 sponsor determines that a project will not begin before June 30, 2021, the sponsor shall notify the department  
 18 of natural resources and conservation. After all eligible projects are funded, remaining funds may be used for any  
 19 renewable resource project authorized under this section.

20 (4) The following are the prioritized grant projects:

21 RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM

22	Applicant/Project	Amount
23	Seeley Lake - Missoula County Sewer District	
24	(Wastewater Improvements, Phase 2)	\$125,000
25	Granite County	
26	(Flint Creek Dam Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
27	Whitefish, City of	
28	(Wastewater Treatment System Improvements)	\$125,000
29	Missoula, City of	
30	(Rattlesnake Creek Dam Removal)	\$125,000

1	Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation	
2	Water Resources Division	
3	(Douglas Canal Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
4	Flathead Conservation District	
5	(Trumbull Creek Restoration and Aquifer Protection)	\$125,000
6	Canyon Creek Irrigation District	
7	(Canyon Lake Dam Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
8	Harlowton, City of	
9	(Roundhouse Wetland Restoration)	\$125,000
10	Thompson Falls, City of	
11	(Wastewater System Improvements, Phase 1)	\$125,000
12	Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation	
13	Water Resources Division	
14	(Broadwater Missouri Canal System Master Plan)	\$125,000
15	Winnett, Town of	
16	(Wastewater System Retrofit)	\$125,000
17	Bitter Root Irrigation District	
18	(Como Dam Water Resource Enhancement)	\$125,000
19	Harlowton, City of	
20	(Wastewater Improvements)	\$125,000
21	Milk River Joint Board of Control	
22	(St. Mary Canal Drop 2 Replacement)	\$125,000
23	Whitehall, Town of	
24	(Water Treatment Plant Improvements)	\$125,000
25	Lewis and Clark Conservation District	
26	(Willow Creek Feeder Canal Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
27	Fort Belknap Indian Community	
28	(Three Mile Creek Pump Station Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
29	Roundup, City of	
30	(Water System Improvements)	\$125,000

1	Glasgow Irrigation District	
2	(V-63 Lateral Conversion)	\$125,000
3	Pondera County Conservation District	
4	(Swift Dam Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
5	Simms County Sewer District	
6	(Wastewater System Improvements, Phase 2)	\$125,000
7	Malta Irrigation District	
8	(Costin Lateral Pipeline Conversion)	\$125,000
9	Power-Teton County Water and Sewer District	
10	(Water System Improvements, Phase 1)	\$125,000
11	Scobey, City of	
12	(Water System Improvements, Phase 2)	\$125,000
13	Bigfork County Water and Sewer District	
14	(Wastewater System Improvements)	\$125,000
15	Buffalo Rapids Irrigation Project District 2	
16	(Lateral 1.6 Pipeline Conversion)	\$125,000
17	Hill County	
18	(Beaver Creek Dam Spillway Improvements)	\$100,000
19	Sidney Water Users Irrigation, District 3	
20	(Main Canal Pipeline Conversion, Phase 2)	\$125,000
21	Flathead Conservation District	
22	(Krause Creek Restoration)	\$125,000
23	Alfalfa Valley Irrigation District	
24	(East Flynn Canal Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
25	Lower Musselshell Conservation District	
26	(Delphia Melstone WUA Irrigation Efficiency and Pump Station Rehabilitation)	
27		\$117,050
28	Columbia Falls, City of	
29	(Water System Improvements)	\$122,950
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1            **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Coordination of fund sources for grants to political subdivisions and**  
2 **local governments.** A project sponsor listed under [section 1(4)] may not receive funds from both the reclamation  
3 and development grants program and the renewable resource grant and loan program for the same project during  
4 the same biennium.

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6            **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Condition of grants.** Disbursement of funds under [section 1] is subject  
7 to the following conditions that must be met by the project sponsor:

8            (1) A scope of work and budget for the project must be approved by the department of natural resources  
9 and conservation. Any changes in scope of work or budget subsequent to legislative approval may not change  
10 project goals and objectives. Changes in activities that would reduce the public or natural resource benefits as  
11 presented in department of natural resources and conservation reports and applicant testimony to the 66th  
12 legislature may result in a proportional reduction in the grant amount.

13            (2) The project sponsor shall show satisfactory completion of conditions described in the recommendation  
14 section of the project narrative of the program report to the legislature for the biennium ending June 30, 2021,  
15 or, in the case of planning grants issued under [section 1(1)], completion of conditions specified at the time of  
16 written notification of approved grant authority.

17            (3) The project sponsor must have a fully executed grant agreement with the department.

18            (4) Any other specific requirements considered necessary by the department must be met to accomplish  
19 the purpose of the grant as evidenced from the application to the department or from the proposal as presented  
20 to the legislature.

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22            **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Appropriations established.** There is appropriated to any entity of state  
23 government that receives a grant under [section 1] the amount of the grant upon award of the grant by the  
24 department of natural resources and conservation. Grants to entities from prior bienniums are reauthorized for  
25 completion of contract work.

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27            **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Approval of grants -- completion of biennial appropriation.** The  
28 legislature, pursuant to 85-1-605, approves the renewable resource programs grants listed in [section 1]. The  
29 authorization of these grants constitutes a biennial appropriation from the natural resources projects state special  
30 revenue account established in 15-38-302.

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2           **NEW SECTION. Section 6. Notification to tribal governments.** The secretary of state shall send a  
3 copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and to the Little Shell  
4 Chippewa tribe.

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6           **COORDINATION SECTION. Section 7. Coordination instruction.** If [this act], House Bill 7, and an  
7 act that provides funding from a source other than natural resources projects state special revenue account  
8 established in 15-38-302 of at least \$400,000 for aquatic invasive species grants to be administered by the  
9 department of natural resources and conservation are passed and approved, then [section 1(1) of this act] is  
10 amended to include:

11           "(g) \$300,000 for any grant programs listed under [section 1(1)(b) through (1)(f)]."

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13           **NEW SECTION. Section 8. Severability.** If a part of [this act] is invalid, all valid parts that are severable  
14 from the invalid part remain in effect. If a part of [this act] is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part  
15 remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications.

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17           **NEW SECTION. Section 9. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2019.

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