

HOUSE BILL NO. 6

INTRODUCED BY M. HOPKINS

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION, 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, 2021, 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) \$1,000,000 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;

and

(e) \$100,000 for private grants to be awarded by the department over the course of the biennium; AND

(F) \$250,000 FOR AN EMERGENCY GRANT FOR WATER SYSTEM REPAIRS AT THE SAVAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

(2) The amount of \$4,500,000 is appropriated to the department of natural resources and conservation from the natural resources projects state special revenue account established in 15-38-302 for the biennium

1 beginning July 1, 2021. The funds referred to in this subsection must be awarded by the department to the
 2 named entities for the described purposes and in the grant amounts listed in subsection (4), subject to the
 3 conditions set forth in [sections 2 and 3] and the contingencies described in the renewable resource grant and
 4 loan program January 2021 report to the 67th legislature titled: Governor's Executive Budget Fiscal Years
 5 2021-2023 Volume 6.

6 (3) Funds must be awarded up to the amounts approved in subsection (4) in the following listed order
 7 of priority until available funds are expended. Funds not accepted or used by higher-ranked projects must be
 8 provided for projects farther down the priority list that would not otherwise receive funding. If at any time a grant
 9 sponsor determines that a project will not begin before June 30, 2023, the sponsor shall notify the department
 10 of natural resources and conservation. After all eligible projects are funded, remaining funds may be used for
 11 any renewable resource project authorized under this section.

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

13 RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM

14 Applicant/Project	Amount
15 Milk River Joint Board of Control	
16 (St. Mary Diversion Dam and Headworks Design Completion)	\$125,000
17 Gardiner Park County Water and Sewer District	
18 (Wastewater System Improvements)	\$125,000
19 Greenfields Irrigation District	
20 (Arnold Coulee Hydroelectric Project)	\$125,000
21 Cooke City Water and Sewer District	
22 (Wastewater Collection and Treatment System Project)	\$125,000
23 Fort Smith Water and Sewer District	
24 (Wastewater System Improvements)	\$125,000
25 Montana Department of Corrections	
26 (Powell Dam Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
27 Lewis and Clark Conservation District	
28 (Beaver Creek Restoration, Phase 2)	\$125,000

1	Lockwood Water and Sewer District	
2	(CS3-1 Collection System Improvements, Phase 3)	\$125,000
3	Manhattan, Town of	
4	(Water Reclamation Facility Improvements, Phase 1)	\$125,000
5	Helena Valley Irrigation District	
6	(Terminal Wasteway and Lateral Automation and Measurement)	\$125,000
7	Thompson Falls, City of	
8	(Wastewater System Improvements, Phase 3)	\$125,000
9	Butte-Silver Bow Government	
10	(Basin Creek Dam #1 Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
11	Deer Lodge, City of	
12	(Wastewater Collection System Improvement)	\$125,000
13	Pondera County Conservation District	
14	(Dupuyer Creek Diversion Automation)	\$125,000
15	Teton Conservation District	
16	(Eureka Dam Safety Improvements)	\$125,000
17	Darby, Town of	
18	(Wastewater System Improvements)	\$125,000
19	Libby, City of	
20	(Wastewater System Improvements)	\$125,000
21	Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation – Water Resources Division	
22	(Ackley Lake Outlet Canal Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
23	Greenfields Irrigation District	
24	(SRS-71 Headworks and SRS Re-Regulation)	\$125,000
25	Valier, Town of	
26	(Wastewater System Improvements, Phase 3)	\$125,000
27	Greenfields Irrigation District	
28	(Spring Coulee Headworks Replacement)	\$125,000

1	Helena Valley Irrigation District	
2	(Lateral 11.9 Canal Conversion and Gate Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
3	Big Mountain County Sewer District	
4	(Wastewater Collection System Improvements)	\$125,000
5	Lower Musselshell County Conservation District	
6	(DMWUA Main Canal Diversion Gate Automation)	\$125,000
7	Bitterroot Conservation District	
8	(Bitterroot River Irrigation Management Study)	\$125,000
9	Wolf Point, City of	
10	(Wastewater Collection System Improvements)	\$125,000
11	Havre, City of	
12	(Clear Creek Court-Sanitary Sewer System Improvements)	\$125,000
13	Missoula, City of	
14	(Rattlesnake Creek Wilderness Dams Project)	\$125,000
15	Missoula County	
16	(Buena Vista Wastewater System Improvements, Phase 2)	\$125,000
17	Fort Belknap Indian Community	
18	(Milk River Diversion Gate Automation)	\$125,000
19	Shelby, City of	
20	(Water Infrastructure System Improvements)	\$125,000
21	Fort Peck Tribes	
22	(Frazer and Wiota Pump Automation and Monitoring)	\$125,000
23	Lower Willow Creek Irrigation District	
24	(Lower Willow Creek Reservoir Toe Drain Repair)	\$125,000
25	Hill County	
26	(Beaver Creek Dam Improvements)	\$125,000
27	East Helena, City of	
28	(Wastewater System Improvements)	\$125,000

1	Bitter Root Irrigation District	
2	(Water Efficiency, Modernization and Planning Study)	\$125,000
3	Beaverhead Conservation District	
4	(Irrigation Efficiency and Water Measurement)	\$125,000
5	Stillwater Conservation District	
6	(Mendenhall Ditch Intake and Drop Structure Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
7	Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation – Water Resources Division	
8	(Deadman’s Supply Canal Rehabilitation, Phase 2)	\$125,000
9	Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project	
10	(Later V Check Structure and Lateral W Headgate Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
11	Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation – Water Resources Division	
12	(Two Dot Canal Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
13	Circle, Town of	
14	(Water System Improvements, Phase 3)	\$125,000
15	Roundup, City of	
16	(Water Main Improvements, Phase 6)	\$125,000
17	Clinton Irrigation District	
18	(Schoolhouse Lateral Pipeline Conversion)	\$125,000
19	Tenmile Creek Estates/Pleasant Valley Water and Sewer District	
20	(Wastewater System Improvements)	\$125,000
21	Carbon County Conservation District	
22	(Mutual Ditch Siphon Replacement)	\$125,000
23	Ekalaka, Town of	
24	(Water System Improvements)	\$125,000
25	Glen Lake Irrigation District	
26	(Rolling Hills Canal Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
27	Buffalo Rapids Irrigation Project District 1	
28	(BRIPD1 Irrigation System Automation)	\$125,000

1	Flaxville, Town of	
2	(Water System Improvements)	\$125,000
3	North Valley County Water and Sewer District	
4	(Water System Improvements, Phase 1)	\$125,000
5	Buffalo Rapids Irrigation Project District 2	
6	(BRIPD2 Lateral 1.6 Pipeline Conversion, Phase 2)	\$125,000
7	Petroleum County Conservation District	
8	(Petrolia Dam Outlet Works Headgate Replacement)	\$105,742
9	Harlowton, City of	
10	(Water System Improvements, Phase 5)	\$125,000
11	Alfalfa Valley Irrigation District	
12	(East Flynn Canal Rehabilitation, Phase 2)	\$125,000
13	Malta Irrigation District	
14	(Main Canal Lining – Wagner Ranch)	\$125,000
15	Glasgow Irrigation District	
16	(Spaniard Check Structure)	\$125,000
17	Lewistown, City of	
18	(Water System Improvements)	\$125,000
19	Glen Lake Irrigation District	
20	(Infrastructure Modernization Study)	\$125,000
21	Big Timber, City of	
22	(Water System Improvements)	\$125,000
23	Alberton, Town of	
24	(Water System Improvements)	\$125,000
25	Hysham Irrigation District	
26	(Intake Improvements)	\$125,000
27	Three Forks, City of	
28	(Water System Improvements)	\$125,000

1	Choteau, City of	
2	(Water System Improvements)	\$125,000
3	Fairfield, Town of	
4	(Water System Improvements)	\$125,000
5	Huntley Project Irrigation District	
6	(Yellowstone River Bank Stabilization)	\$125,000
7	Sweet Grass County Conservation District	
8	(Post-Kellogg Ditch Headworks Improvement)	\$125,000
9	Lewistown, City of	
10	(Ditch Rehabilitation)	\$125,000
11	Joliet, Town of	
12	(Water System Improvements)	\$125,000
13	Richey, Town of	
14	(Water System Improvements, Phase 1)	\$125,000
15	Fort Benton, City of	
16	(Water System Improvements)	\$125,000
17	Big Sandy, Town of	
18	(Stormwater System Improvements)	\$125,000
19	Belgrade School District	
20	(Ridge View Elementary Solar Project)	\$115,046
21	Paradise Valley Irrigation District	
22	(Milk Riverbank Stabilization)	\$125,000

23

24 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Coordination of fund sources for grants to political subdivisions**

25 **and local governments.** A project sponsor listed under [section 1(4)] may not receive funds from both the

26 reclamation and development grants program and the renewable resource grant and loan program for the same

27 project during the same biennium.

28

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

3 (1) A scope of work and budget for the project must be approved by the department of natural
4 resources and conservation. Any changes in scope of work or budget subsequent to legislative approval may
5 not change project goals and objectives. Changes in activities that would reduce the public or natural resource
6 benefits as presented in department of natural resources and conservation reports and applicant testimony to
7 the 67th legislature may result in a proportional reduction in the grant amount.

8 (2) The project sponsor shall show satisfactory completion of conditions described in the
9 recommendation section of the project narrative of the program report to the legislature for the biennium ending
10 June 30, 2023, or, in the case of planning grants issued under [section 1(1)], completion of conditions specified
11 at the time of written notification of approved grant authority.

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

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

16
17 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Appropriations established.** There is appropriated to any entity of state
18 government that receives a grant under [section 1] the amount of the grant upon award of the grant by the
19 department of natural resources and conservation. Grants to entities from prior bienniums are reauthorized for
20 completion of contract work.

21
22 **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Approval of grants -- completion of biennial appropriation.** The
23 legislature, pursuant to 85-1-605, approves the renewable resource programs grants listed in [section 1]. The
24 authorization of these grants constitutes a biennial appropriation from the natural resources projects state
25 special revenue account established in 15-38-302.

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27 **NEW SECTION. Section 6. Notification to tribal governments.** The secretary of state shall send a
28 copy of [this act] to each federally recognized tribal government in Montana.

1
2 COORDINATION SECTION. **Section 7. Coordination instruction.** If both [this act] and an act that
3 provides additional funding for renewable resource grant and loan program grants from a source other than the
4 natural resources projects state special revenue account established in 15-38-302 are passed and approved,
5 the projects listed in [section 1(4) of this act] that do not receive funding from the appropriations in [section 1(2)
6 of this act] may receive funding from the appropriation in the other act designated for renewable resource grant
7 and loan program grants in the order of completion of the conditions of [section 3 of this act] and to the extent
8 that there is appropriation authority available.

9
10 NEW SECTION. **Section 8. Severability.** If a part of [this act] is invalid, all valid parts that are
11 severable from the invalid part remain in effect. If a part of [this act] is invalid in one or more of its applications,
12 the part remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications.

13

14 NEW SECTION. **Section 9. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2021.

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