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:

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

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

(4) The following are the prioritized grant projects:

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant/Project</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milk River Joint Board of Control (St. Mary Diversion Dam and Headworks Design Completion)</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardiner Park County Water and Sewer District (Wastewater System Improvements)</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenfields Irrigation District (Arnold Coulee Hydroelectric Project)</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooke City Water and Sewer District (Wastewater Collection and Treatment System Project)</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Smith Water and Sewer District (Wastewater System Improvements)</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana Department of Corrections (Powell Dam Rehabilitation)</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis and Clark Conservation District (Beaver Creek Restoration, Phase 2)</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lockwood Water and Sewer District (CS3-1 Collection System Improvements, Phase 3)</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Manhattan, Town of
(Water Reclamation Facility Improvements, Phase 1) $125,000

Helena Valley Irrigation District
(Terminal Wasteway and Lateral Automation and Measurement) $125,000

Thompson Falls, City of
(Wastewater System Improvements, Phase 3) $125,000

Butte-Silver Bow Government
(Basin Creek Dam #1 Rehabilitation) $125,000

Deer Lodge, City of
(Wastewater Collection System Improvement) $125,000

Pondera County Conservation District
(Dupuyer Creek Diversion Automation) $125,000

Teton Conservation District
(Eureka Dam Safety Improvements) $125,000

Darby, Town of
(Wastewater System Improvements) $125,000

Libby, City of
(Wastewater System Improvements) $125,000

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation – Water Resources Division
(Ackley Lake Outlet Canal Rehabilitation) $125,000

Greenfields Irrigation District
(SRS-71 Headworks and SRS Re-Regulation) $125,000

Valier, Town of
(Wastewater System Improvements, Phase 3) $125,000

Greenfields Irrigation District
(Spring Coulee Headworks Replacement) $125,000

Helena Valley Irrigation District
(Lateral 11.9 Canal Conversion and Gate Rehabilitation) $125,000
Big Mountain County Sewer District  
(Wastewater Collection System Improvements)  $125,000

Lower Musselshell County Conservation District  
(DMWUA Main Canal Diversion Gate Automation)  $125,000

Bitterroot Conservation District  
(Bitterroot River Irrigation Management Study)  $125,000

Wolf Point, City of  
(Wastewater Collection System Improvements)  $125,000

Havre, City of  
(Clear Creek Court-Sanitary Sewer System Improvements)  $125,000

Missoula, City of  
(Rattlesnake Creek Wilderness Dams Project)  $125,000

Missoula County  
(Buena Vista Wastewater System Improvements, Phase 2)  $125,000

Fort Belknap Indian Community  
(Milk River Diversion Gate Automation)  $125,000

Shelby, City of  
(Water Infrastructure System Improvements)  $125,000

Fort Peck Tribes  
(Frazer and Wiota Pump Automation and Monitoring)  $125,000

Lower Willow Creek Irrigation District  
(Lower Willow Creek Reservoir Toe Drain Repair)  $125,000

Hill County  
(Beaver Creek Dam Improvements)  $125,000

East Helena, City of  
(Wastewater System Improvements)  $125,000

Bitter Root Irrigation District  
(Water Efficiency, Modernization and Planning Study)  $125,000
Beaverhead Conservation District
(Irrigation Efficiency and Water Measurement) $125,000

Stillwater Conservation District
(Mendenhall Ditch Intake and Drop Structure Rehabilitation) $125,000

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation – Water Resources Division
(Deadman’s Supply Canal Rehabilitation, Phase 2) $125,000

Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project
(Later V Check Structure and Lateral W Headgate Rehabilitation) $125,000

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation – Water Resources Division
(Two Dot Canal Rehabilitation) $125,000

Circle, Town of
(Water System Improvements, Phase 3) $125,000

Roundup, City of
(Water Main Improvements, Phase 6) $125,000

Clinton Irrigation District
(Schoolhouse Lateral Pipeline Conversion) $125,000

Tenmile Creek Estates/Pleasant Valley Water and Sewer District
(Wastewater System Improvements) $125,000

Carbon County Conservation District
(Mutual Ditch Siphon Replacement) $125,000

Ekalaka, Town of
(Water System Improvements) $125,000

Glen Lake Irrigation District
(Rolling Hills Canal Rehabilitation) $125,000

Buffalo Rapids Irrigation Project District 1
(BRIPD1 Irrigation System Automation) $125,000

Flaxville, Town of
(Water System Improvements) $125,000
North Valley County Water and Sewer District  
(Water System Improvements, Phase 1)  $125,000

Buffalo Rapids Irrigation Project District 2  
(BRIPD2 Lateral 1.6 Pipeline Conversion, Phase 2)  $125,000

Petroleum County Conservation District  
(Petrolia Dam Outlet Works Headgate Replacement)  $105,742

Harlowton, City of  
(Water System Improvements, Phase 5)  $125,000

Alfalfa Valley Irrigation District  
(East Flynn Canal Rehabilitation, Phase 2)  $125,000

Malta Irrigation District  
(Main Canal Lining – Wagner Ranch)  $125,000

Glasgow Irrigation District  
(Spaniard Check Structure)  $125,000

Lewistown, City of  
(Water System Improvements)  $125,000

Glen Lake Irrigation District  
(Infrastructure Modernization Study)  $125,000

Big Timber, City of  
(Water System Improvements)  $125,000

Alberton, Town of  
(Water System Improvements)  $125,000

Hysham Irrigation District  
(Intake Improvements)  $125,000

Three Forks, City of  
(Water System Improvements)  $125,000

Choteau, City of  
(Water System Improvements)  $125,000
Fairfield, Town of  
(Water System Improvements) $125,000

Huntley Project Irrigation District  
(Yellowstone River Bank Stabilization) $125,000

Sweet Grass County Conservation District  
(Post-Kellogg Ditch Headworks Improvement) $125,000

Lewistown, City of  
(Ditch Rehabilitation) $125,000

Joliet, Town of  
(Water System Improvements) $125,000

Richey, Town of  
(Water System Improvements, Phase 1) $125,000

Fort Benton, City of  
(Water System Improvements) $125,000

Big Sandy, Town of  
(Stormwater System Improvements) $125,000

Belgrade School District  
(Ridge View Elementary Solar Project) $115,046

Paradise Valley Irrigation District  
(Milk Riverbank Stabilization) $125,000

Section 2. Coordination of fund sources for grants to political subdivisions and local governments. A project sponsor listed under [section 1(4)] may not receive funds from both the reclamation and development grants program and the renewable resource grant and loan program for the same project during the same biennium.

Section 3. Condition of grants. Disbursement of funds under [section 1] is subject to the following conditions that must be met by the project sponsor:
(1) A scope of work and budget for the project must be approved by the department of natural resources and conservation. Any changes in scope of work or budget subsequent to legislative approval may not change project goals and objectives. Changes in activities that would reduce the public or natural resource benefits as presented in department of natural resources and conservation reports and applicant testimony to the 67th legislature may result in a proportional reduction in the grant amount.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Section 9. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2021.

- END -
I hereby certify that the within bill, HB 6, originated in the House.

___________________________________________
Chief Clerk of the House

___________________________________________
Speaker of the House

Signed this ______________________day of__________________________, 2021.

___________________________________________
President of the Senate

Signed this ______________________day of__________________________, 2021.
HOUSE BILL NO. 6
INTRODUCED BY M. HOPKINS

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

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM;
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