

**MISSOURI-MADISON RIVER FUND
RECREATION PROJECT**

APPLICATION FORM 2009

Project Name: **Roe River Island Rock Wall Rehabilitation Project**

Reservoir or River Segment: **Rainbow Reservoir, Missouri River, Great Falls Area, Cascade County**

Site Name and/or Legal Location: **Giant Springs State Park**

Applicant Name **Matt Marcinek**

Position (if applicable) **Giant Springs State Park Manager**

Address **4600 Giant Springs Rd, Great Falls, MT 59405**

Telephone # **(406) 454-5858**

E-mail Address **mmarcinek@mt.gov**

Project Sponsors:

A submitted application will need a Project Sponsor. Project sponsors serve on Missouri-Madison Regional Working Groups, and include representatives of the U.S. Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks; local government; Madison, Gallatin, Broadwater, Chouteau, Lewis and Clark, or Cascade Counties; PPL Montana and the Bureau of Reclamation. See page 1-9 of the Comprehensive Recreation Plan for a list of 2009 members of the Regional Working Groups (www.apleco.com/mmcrp.asp).

Project Sponsor Name **MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks**

Position (if applicable) **Matt Marcinek, Park Manager**

Address **4600 Giant Springs Rd, Great Falls, MT 59405**

Telephone # **(406) 454-5858**

E-mail Address **mmarcinek@mt.gov**

	<u>Financial Support</u>
Total Project Cost:	\$ <u>47,000</u>
Applicant Contributions (FWP in kind):	\$ <u>5,000</u>
Other Contributions (Please list by source):	
<u>Sievert & Sievert Consultation</u>	\$ <u>1,000</u>
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
PPL Montana Match Request:	\$ <u>5,000</u>
River Fund Request:	\$ <u>36,000</u>

Proposed Project Period: To coincide with anticipated drawdown of Rainbow Reservoir in 2010 -- 2011

Please note: Document all in-kind support and contributed services from project partners under Scoring Criterion #1 on page 3.

Has this project been previously submitted for funding consideration by the River Fund Board, either as a separate project or part of another project? ___ Yes ___ No. If "Yes," please identify which years the application was submitted and, if the project was previously funded, list the amount funded by year.

MISSOURI-MADISON RIVER FUND RECREATION PROJECT

Project Description:

This project is being proposed at this time to take advantage of an anticipated four-month long drawdown of Rainbow Reservoir by PPLM in 2010 -- 2011 as part of the new Rainbow Powerhouse construction. Completing this project during the drawdown will save an estimated \$8,600 per 100' section of wall for de-watering (per engineer's estimate), and ease the permitting process.

As background, Roe River Island was constructed in 1932-33 on property leased to the City of Great Falls by Montana Power Company (MPC). The rock retaining wall surrounding today's island was built by the Works Project Administration (WPA) to enlarge a natural spit of land, and make the island large enough for visitors, and to install a stone restroom building on the island. The rock retaining wall is one of eight historical features within Giant Springs State Park considered a Historic Feature in a Potentially Eligible Historic District. Ken Sievert of Sievert & Sievert CRC conducted a review of this rock wall in 2007 as part of a cultural resource plan commissioned by FWP entitled Rehabilitation of Bridges, Walkways, and Site Features, and has determined the proper historical treatment of this wall is rehabilitation. Ken has provided technical specification and cost estimates for rehabilitating the wall, and these plans have received concurrence by the State Historic preservation Office (SHPO). Ken continues to provide technical assistance to FWP on these features, and has agreed to donate in-kind services as part of this grant request.

Currently the rock wall is experiencing significant deterioration due to weathering, effects of the Missouri River and Rainbow Reservoir water levels, public use, and muskrat burrowing through and behind the wall. As shown in photographs contained later in this application, a large number of stones are displaced or missing, creating openings in the wall and allowing for slumping or collapse. This proposed project is needed to stop the deterioration of the wall by replacing stones, repairing concrete abutments below water level, backfilling behind the wall to fill cavities and voids, and recapping the top of the wall. Some sections of sidewalk may also have to be replaced due to cracking or subsidence. The project will address the worst portions of the wall on the Missouri River side of the island, approximately 200 lineal feet of wall. Therefore, with the upcoming drawdown, and the significant deterioration of this wall, it is advantageous for FWP to attain funding for this project at this time.

Access to the Island was recently preserved through 2008 Missouri-Madison River Fund project of replacing the historic Roe River Bridge. The bridge project was completed in August 2009, and visitors are making use of the new bridge to access Roe Island.

Scoring Criteria

1. Collaboration

Ken Sievert of Sievert & Sievert CRC has agreed to provide technical and historical preservation assistance to FWP for this project as in-kind services.

FWP will develop the contract documents and administer the contract through its Design and Construction Project Managers. FWP will obtain all necessary permits required for work at this particular site, and also work with SHPO to ensure compliance. FWP has also commissioned the cultural resource plan through an earlier effort to provide the basis for this proposed project, and to achieve cultural concurrence with SHPO.

2. Need for the Project

If the wall is not repaired in the near future, it is likely that sections of the wall will collapse or fail. If conditions worsen, the public may have to be restricted from the island for safety reasons, thereby removing

an important recreational area and water access point. As evidence of these safety issues, several times in the past two years Giant Springs staff have had to close off portions of the island due to sink holes developing in the turf areas until temporary repairs could be made. In 2008, a 25' section of concrete sidewalk had to be removed and replaced due to it collapsing into a cavity behind the wall. Park staff recently installed a temporary wooden platform over the worst sinkholes as a safety measure. The deck spans the sinkholes and provides a stable surface until the wall can be repaired correctly and the area back filled permanently.

3. Project Benefit

Roe Island is a very popular viewing area for the Roe River, Giant Springs, Missouri River, and Rainbow Reservoir. Giant Springs State Park is the most highly visited MT State Park and many of its visitors utilize Roe Island during their visits. The island is universally accessible, providing important access to the water for those with disabilities. The accessible fishing stations located on the east end of the island are extremely popular, providing year around fishing opportunities for families and those with disabilities. Park staff routinely use the island for interpretation of Giant Springs, Roe River, local history, wildlife viewing, and PPLM hydroelectric operations. The Island therefore accomplishes many of the goals listed in the Missouri-Madison Comprehensive Recreation Management Plan (CRP).

4. Operation & Maintenance of an Existing Site

Giant Springs State Park and Roe Island are both long time recreational sites, important to the history of the area. The land on which the park and adjoining hatchery lie was originally leased to the City of Great Falls and Fish, Wildlife and Parks by Montana Power Company in the early 1900's. Montana Power agreed to lease the land to the City of Great Falls, but prescribed that the land only be used as a municipal park, which was adhered to by the City in its development of the area. Giant Springs became a State Park in 1972 and continues that prescribed public use.

FWP staff currently performs routine maintenance of the island and the wall, but the extensive rehabilitation required on the wall is out of the scope of normal budgets and staff expertise. This River Fund application request would allow for at least a portion of the wall to be repaired and stabilized in a long term fashion that is in keeping with historical preservation standards. Use of the Island will not change due to this project, but will allow for greater safety for the visitors to Giant Springs.

5. Supports Resource Plans

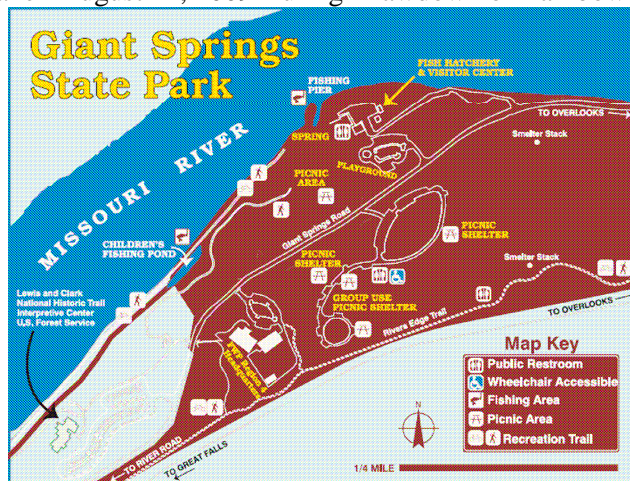
Roe Island is part of the original circulatory patterns that early designers envisioned for Giant Springs, and is the primary recreation site on Rainbow Reservoir. The Island protects natural resources by providing year around, safe, universally accessible access to the Missouri River, Roe River, and Rainbow Reservoir. Performing rehabilitation on the rock wall at this time will allow the original stonework to be protected, and remain visible for visitors to enjoy. Without rehabilitation, it may become necessary to replace this culturally important feature with modern materials, losing a vital part of the history of Giant Springs. Rehabilitation is the prescribed treatment for the wall, as provided in Rehabilitation of Bridges, Walkways, and Site Features (Sievert and Sievert, 2007). Rehabilitation of this historic wall is also in keeping with the Historic Preservation goals outlined in the FWP's 2004 Giant Springs State Park Management Plan.



Photo Showing Condition of Existing Wall
 Photo Taken August 24, 2009 During Drawdown of Rainbow Reservoir



Photo Showing Condition of Existing Wall, Fishing Stations Shown in Upper Right
 Photo Taken August 24, 2009 During Drawdown of Rainbow Reservoir



Map of Giant Springs State Park
 Roe Island Indicated by "Fishing Pier"