

**MISSOURI-MADISON RIVER FUND
RECREATION PROJECT
APPLICATION FORM 2010**

Project Name: Missouri River Corridor Entrance Sign

Reservoir or River Segment: River County(ies): Lewis & Clark

Site Name and/or Legal Location: Missouri River Corridor (Wolf Creek Canyon)

Applicant Name Christopher Dantic
 Position (if applicable) Missouri River Recreation Ranger
 Address 4600 Giant Springs Rd. Great Falls, MT 59405
 Telephone # 406-454-5870
 E-mail Address cdantic@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 Chapter 1 of the Comprehensive Recreation Plan for a list of [2010 members](http://www.apleco.com/mmcrp.asp) of the Regional Working Groups (www.apleco.com/mmcrp.asp).

Project Sponsor Name Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
 Position (if applicable)
 Address 4600 Giant Springs Rd. Great Falls, MT 59405
 Telephone # 406-454-5870
 E-mail Address

	<u>Financial Support</u>
Total Project Cost:	\$ 5,280
Applicant Contributions: (in-kind services)	\$ 2,280
Other Contributions (Please list by source):	
BLM Butte Field Office (In-kind services)	\$ 200
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

PPL Montana Match Request: \$ 570
 River Fund Request: \$ 2230

Proposed Project Period: Spring/ Summer 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 ___X___No. If "Yes," please identify which years the application was submitted and, if the project was previously funded, list the amount funded by year.

Project Description:

Missouri River Corridor Entrance Sign Project

The current Missouri River Corridor entrance sign is located off Recreation Road exit in Wolf Creek Canyon. When leaving Helena, MT and heading north towards Great Falls, MT the sign is located approximately 1 quarter mile north of the exit. The Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks sign is made of wood and has engraved features showing a map of Recreation Road with FWP fishing access sites with campgrounds. Holter Lake is also shown on the map but does not include any campgrounds. An FWP pullout exists for vehicles to stop and look at the map to get familiar with the area and recreation opportunities along the Missouri River. The sign is badly eroded and would get more use if it looked more professional.

The main goal of this project is to update the sign. Both the map and welcome sections of the sign will be updated from wood to longer lasting fiberglass. Updates will include new fishing access sites that are missing on the sign, but also work with the Bureau of Land Management's Butte field office staff in making sure Holter Lake is well represented in the sign. By adding the BLM campgrounds to the sign that exist around Holter Lake and below the Dam, the public will know about the camping opportunities around Holter Lake. The map key will also be upgraded with where boat ramps are located and where FWP day use FAS's are located and overnight camping FAS's are established in the canyon. Currently the map is ambiguous as it looks like all fishing access sites have overnight camping. The mileage section will also stay on the new sign to help travelers plan their trip in the canyon.

Scoring Criteria:

Missouri River Corridor Entrance Sign Project

1. Project is for operation and maintenance of an existing recreation site or an existing Project 2188 license site. This proposed project replaces an important informative and map sign at the south end of the Missouri River corridor where a number of Project 2188 license sites including Holter Dam are located. The project will help enhance the Missouri River corridor by helping the public find and direct visitors to Bureau of Land Management's four Holter Lake campgrounds and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks 16 campgrounds between Little Prickly Pear Fishing Access Site and Cascade, MT. By updating the sign with a new map and key it will educate campers knowing the difference between a day-use FAS and overnight camping FAS. This will help decrease the amount of people camping overnight in day use sites.
2. Project involves collaboration with other agencies or organization. Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the Bureau of Land Management will work together on the sign project, making sure the public knows about the BLM and FWP recreational opportunities along Holter Dam and reservoir, and the Missouri River respectively.
3. Project provides a benefit to public recreation in the Project Area and addresses specific issues and goals of the Missouri-Madison Comprehensive Recreation Plan (CRP). The main goal is to help recreationists know where the sites are located, who manages each site and

that the public knows the rules and regulations along the Missouri River corridor and Holter Lake sites. A major benefit of updating the sign is making sure the public knows about changes in sites that have taken place over the last couple years. Between 2008 and 2009 FWP region four camping revenue in the Missouri River corridor increased by almost \$4,000. The Wolf Creek Canyon and river corridor recreation sites keep rising in popularity and by updating the sign it will help the public know more about what the Missouri River corridor has to offer. Two new fishing access sites have to be added to the map, which include Bull Pasture FAS and Lone Tree FAS. Not a recent addition, but Mid Canon FAS is missing on the map and needs to be added. Table Rock Fishing Access Site is no longer in existence and needs to be removed off the map. Holter Lake is located on the map but campgrounds are not labeled around the reservoir. By working with BLM staff, Holter Dam Campground, Holter Lake Campground, Log Gulch Campground and Departure Point Campground would be added to the map. These additions will help the public's knowledge of campgrounds that are not just located along the river. These changes along with updating day use and overnight campgrounds will help experienced and new visitors to the area wanting to recreate.

4. Project responds to a clearly identified need. If funding is not successful for this project the incorrect information about recreation sites in the Missouri River corridor will continue to be shown. The wooden sign will also keep fading and eroding away information for visitors. The need for upgrading the sign is very important not only for management of the corridor but also for the public making sure they are receiving the correct information about use of public lands along the Missouri River. The sign will help manage the land use and public access. The new sign will help decrease overnight use at day use sites which will help lower citations in sites and maintaining the FWP fishing access sites. The sign will also help public access as the new map will help boaters locate boat ramps at Holter Lake and the fishing access sites. The map will also help show people where both day use and overnight camping opportunities exist.

5. Project supports or protects other resources and is consistent with or supports resource plans in the Project Area. The sign project will help protect resources as new text will be added to the map with some of the rules and regulations FWP and BLM share together.

Site Location Maps



Current Sign:



