



Lincoln Conservation District

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Response to Request for Proposals

Kootenai River Network

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

The Lincoln Conservation District (LCD) is responding to the Request for Proposals for potential restoration/conservation projects in the Kootenai Basin. LCD is coordinating a stream and floodplain restoration project within Mud Creek **on private land owned by Barry Roose**. We are requesting funding from the Kootenai River Network, Inc. to fund construction of a fish barrier on Mud Creek within the larger scope of a planned restoration project. The project site is located at the intersection of U.S. Highway 93 and Mud Creek Road near, Eureka, Montana (Latitude 48.88746 Longitude -114.06889; Digit HUC #1701010108).

Mud Creek is a tributary of Therriault Creek within the Tobacco River watershed and is listed as a stream of high priority in the Kootenai River Basin Watershed Restoration Plan for meeting EPA mandated sediment reduction targets established in the 2011 Tobacco Planning Area Sediment TMDL and Framework Water Quality Improvement Plan. In 2015, Mr. Roose contacted the LCD for support and sponsorship to seek funding to restore a section of Mud Creek that flows through his property. The property is a former sawmill site that operated from 1954 – 1973 and historical alteration of the floodplain and channelization resulted in a significant loss of habitat complexity and degraded conditions. The Mud Creek restoration project will restore 4,890 feet of streambank and 5 acres of floodplain, reduce sediment loading and reduce in-stream temperatures by pond removal and the growth of riparian shading. The restored floodplain-wetlands complex will provide habitat for both migratory and resident waterfowl. However, immediately downstream of this section of Mud Creek, a small lake was developed for a residential community that currently acts as a refuge and source population for non-native northern pike (*Esox lucius*). Pike have successfully invaded Mud Creek and **we view construction of a fish barrier as a critical first step towards eradication of northern pike and promote success of the cold-water fishery and native westslope cutthroat trout population.**

The LCD was awarded a DNRC 223 Grant to develop the conceptual design for the restoration and DEQ 319 grant to complete the final design and construction. The 319 funds will be released in July 2017 and **we anticipate project completion within one year. The landowner is interested in signing a landowner agreement** and is enthusiastic about restoration and preservation of ecological integrity on this section of Mud Creek.

Table 1. Budget deliverables and cost.

Expense	Funds requested	In-kind contribution	Total
Design of structure	\$3,000		\$3,000
Re-design & construction of existing conceptual	\$10,000		\$10,000
Installation	\$6,000	\$6,983 (Materials)	\$12,983
Administrative fee 5%	\$950.00		\$950.00
Total	\$19,950	\$6,983	\$26,933

Sponsor Signature, Lincoln Conservation District

February 28, 2017

Date