

**MONTANA WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP AWARD**  
MONTANA WATERSHED COORDINATION COUNCIL

**2005 NOMINATION FORM**

Deadline: February 28, 2006

Purpose: To recognize innovative, locally-led approaches to restoring and enhancing Montana's watersheds.

Name and address of the watershed project or group: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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Name and address of nominator : \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Watershed Contact Person(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Nominations will be evaluated with respect to the four criteria described below. Please provide a narrative description of how the effort addressed these criteria. Narrative responses are limited to three (3) pages in length. The following criteria guidance statements and questions are offered as suggested descriptive elements; not as required elements of your description. Have fun with this part -- remember, it's not a test!!

**A. Summary**

Please provide a two or three sentence description of the problems or issues addressed by the effort.

**B. Narrative Responses.**

**1. Demonstration of measurable results.** Activities undertaken to solve identified problems resulted in documented improvements to watershed resources. Examples: directly improved water quality, enhanced aquatic or wildlife habitat, increased quality/quantity of biomass, produced economic benefits, increased standard of living or quality of life, or any other resource and/or community benefits produced by the strategy. For efforts not yet completed, describe issues and results obtained to date or planned.

- a. What problems or issues were identified by the stakeholders?
- b. What were the proposed solutions and how were they implemented?
- c. Describe the monitoring plan. How were improvements measured?
- d. Did evaluation of results change the implementation strategy?

**2. Diverse, local involvement and effective collaboration.** All interested and affected parties were meaningfully involved in the process and took ownership and pride in the effort including landowners, agencies, conservation districts, and local groups. Effective collaboration skills could include listening to the concerns of various stakeholders and understanding and addressing the concerns in a manner that met the needs of everyone. The effort was successful at soliciting the financial and technical resources needed to accomplish goals.

- a. What measures were taken to involve the public in your process, (word of mouth, surveys, scoping meetings, mailings, etc.)?
- b. How did you generate and measure support for your efforts?
- c. What type of process did you use to reach a decision?, e.g. consensus, majority, etc.
- d. How did you go about obtaining the technical and financial resources needed to further your effort?

**3. Community outreach and education.** Effective communication and education was important to the watershed stewardship effort. This may have involved communication and education of local stakeholders and others any time during the process. Outreach and education efforts could have included: field trips; educational tours and workshops; press releases; newsletters; informational presentations to local civic organizations; field training workshops; information maps; fact sheets and brochures; slide shows; etc.

- a. In general terms, describe how and why outreach and education was important to the watershed effort.
- b. What specific things did the group do for outreach? (Please provide as much detail as possible regarding actions that were taken, outcomes obtained, and/or products produced and distributed.)
- c. What specific things did the group do for education? (Please provide as much detail as possible regarding actions taken, outcomes obtained, and/or products produced and distributed.)
- d. What distinguished the project's outreach and education effort as particularly exceptional or successful?
- e. Other comments regarding the outreach and education effort.

**4. Comprehensive approach to watershed health.** The effort generated a greater understanding of the integral components of the watershed and resulted in planning for those components critical to the health and function of the watershed. Application of the plan or strategy over time has or will result in conditions under which the needs of people and nature are met.

- a. Did the effort look at all resources critical to the stakeholders' concerns? Was this an interdisciplinary approach?
- b. Were a variety of reasonable alternatives developed and considered for implementation?
- c. How did the identification and assessment of resource concerns proceed? Did assessment techniques, and/or treatment alternatives change or stay the same over time?
- d. Was your strategy successful in identifying and/or treating causes of the concern(s) as opposed to symptoms?
- e. Did the effort generate a better understanding of the integral components of the watershed and how they interact?

**C. Supplemental Documentation:** Please attach examples of products developed for the watershed effort, i.e. photos, slides, brochures, newsletters, news media articles, work plans or strategies, etc. You may attach as many documents as you wish. We will make every effort to return these documents, but we cannot be absolutely responsible for their care, so use your judgement with original items.

**D. Submittal:** Please mail the completed nomination and supplements so that it is received on or before **February 30, 2006** to: Glenn Phillips, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, 1420 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. East, Helena MT 59620-0701. Email [gphillips@state.mt.us](mailto:gphillips@state.mt.us). Email is welcomed, but surface mail a hard copy in any case.

The Montana Watershed Coordination Council is a statewide information and support network to advance voluntary local watershed work and help build the capacity to get it done. The Coordination Council serves as a forum that establishes a strong link with local watershed groups needing assistance to help enhance, conserve, and protect natural resources and sustain the high quality of life in Montana for present and future generations. The Council encourages local people to take a proactive, collaborative approach to address natural resource issues and concerns.

For more information about the Council and local watershed efforts around the state, please check the watershed website at <http://water.montana.edu/>