

2006 MONTANA WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP AWARD

MONTANA WATERSHED COORDINATION COUNCIL

The Montana Watershed Coordination Council is pleased to announce the call for nominations for the seventh annual *Montana Watershed Stewardship Award*. The purpose of the award is to recognize innovative, locally led approaches to restoring and enhancing Montana's watersheds. While it should be stressed that there is no single formula for success, the Guidelines considered for the award include the following indicators of watershed stewardship: Diverse, local involvement and effective collaboration; demonstration of measured results; community outreach and education; and comprehensive approach to watershed health.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? Eligible groups may include local watershed councils, coordinated resource management groups and other collaborative watershed efforts that aim to improve, rehabilitate, or protect land and water resources in a watershed. Your effort does not have to be completed to be eligible – simply describe the process and accomplishments to date. Award recipients are not eligible for five years following recognition.

WHO MAY NOMINATE A GROUP? Anyone may make nominations using the attached format on plain 8 1/2"x11" paper, single-spaced and limited to three narrative pages. Nominations will be accepted any time prior to February 28, 2006. Nominations are to be sent to Glenn Phillips, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, 1420 6th Avenue East, PO Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701 and must be received by February 28, 2006. Questions may be directed to: Glenn Phillips (406) 444-5334.

HOW WILL THE RECIPIENT(S) BE SELECTED? The Council's Watershed Recognition work group will review nominations and make recommendations to the Chairperson(s).

WHEN WILL THE AWARD(S) BE PRESENTED? The recipient will be announced in mid March and the award(s) presented at an awards ceremony that will be scheduled in Helena sometime this spring.

Recipients may also be nominated for a national watershed award sponsored by the Conservation Council – a national non-profit organization seeking innovative long-term measures to conserve land and water.

WHAT IS THE AWARD? The award is an attractive framed artwork signed by the Governor and MWCC chairperson. Members of the recipient group will receive unframed copies of the award.

The Montana Watershed Coordination Council is a statewide information and support network organized to advance voluntary local watershed work and to help build the capacity to get it done. The Coordination Council serves as a forum that establishes a link with local watershed groups needing assistance to help enhance, conserve, and protect natural resources and to sustain the high quality of life in Montana for present and future generations. It also serves as a statewide coordination network for Montana's natural resource agencies and private organizations to share resources, identify and capitalize on opportunities for collaboration, and avoid duplication of effort. The council encourages local people to take a proactive, collaborative approach to address natural resource issues and concerns.