

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

MONTANA PARTNERS FOR FISH & WILDLIFE PROGRAM 922 BOOTLEGGER TRAIL GREAT FALLS, MONTANA 59404-6133

IN REPLY REFER TO:

406/793.7400

May 27, 2013

Ryen Neudecker Big Blackfoot Chapter of Trout Unlimited P.O. Box 1 Ovando, MT 59854

Dear Mrs. Neudecker,

This letter is in reference to the Braziel Creek Restoration Project located in the Blackfoot Watershed proposed to the State of Montana Future Fisheries Program. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service fully supports this project because of the incredible biological values associated with it.

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife has a long history of working with the associated private landowners and other partners collaborating to restore the native trout, cold water fishery of the important tributaries feeding the Blackfoot River. The proposed project on Braziel Creek is exciting in that we will be able to continue our efforts of restoring westslope cutthroat trout within this drainage by working with another committed landowner.

The FWS through our Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program has set aside \$8,000 for Braziel Creek and commends the efforts of the many partners for their time and efforts with this project.

If you have any questions regarding this project feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Greg Neudecker State Coordinator Partners for Fish and Wildlife Service