

**FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM  
GRANT APPLICATION**

*(please fill in the highlighted areas)*

**I. APPLICANT INFORMATION**

A. Applicant Name: Big Blackfoot Chapter of Trout Unlimited

B. Mailing Address: PO Box 1

C. City: Ovando State: MT Zip: 59854

Telephone: 406-240-4824

D. Contact Person: Rylen Neudecker

Address if different from Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E. Landowner and/or Lessee Name  
(if other than Applicant): United States Forest Service-Amber Kamps District Ranger

Mailing Address: 1569 US HWY 200

City: Lincoln State: MT Zip: 59639

Telephone: 406.362.7000

**II. PROJECT INFORMATION\***

A. Project Name: Gleason Creek Fish Passage Improvement Project

River, stream, or lake: Gleason Creek

Location: Township 12N Range 8W Section 22

County: Powell

B. Purpose of Project:

The purpose of this project is to address an undersized culvert on Gleason Creek that blocks migration corridors for native trout during high flow periods and creates impairments to the channel.

C. Brief Project Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Gleason Creek is a second-order tributary to upper Nevada Creek and supports westslope cutthroat trout and limited bull trout use. This project has been identified as a priority under the **Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program**—a program identified in 2009 by the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage the collaborative, science-based ecosystem restoration of priority forest landscapes. This project will address the existing stream crossing near stream-mile 0.1 on the United States Forest Service properties that is undersized, impedes fish passage during high flow periods and creates impairments to the channel. The existing 48” culvert is proposed to be replaced with a 137” x 87” CSP Pipe-Arch that will allow uninhibited aquatic organism passage and replicate the stream bed up and down stream of the crossing.

The existing undersized culvert on Gleason Creek causing channel impairment and depression of migratory life histories is proposed to be replaced with a pipe-arch following Stream Simulation methods and principles that will result in a stable stream crossing that will correct the current road drainage problems, eliminate delivery of excessive sediment, provide for fish passage and restore the natural channel morphology to the site. A basic topographic and hydraulic field survey was conducted to locate key physical features within the area of the existing culvert. A long profile, stream cross-sections, bankfull widths, and general geomorphologic parameters were collected. The new structure dimensions were sized based on stream characteristics collected from the reference reach and hydraulic analysis. The hydraulic capacity of the structure was analyzed to ensure that it satisfies a 100-year flood event. Reference reach data collected indicated that bankfull width is close to 9 feet and stream gradient close to 5%. Please refer to attached map, photos and design.

The existing undersized culvert near stream mile 0.1 will be replaced to restore connectivity to the upper ~3.0 miles of Gleason Creek.

D. Length of stream or size of lake that will be treated:

E. Project Budget:

**Grant Request (Dollars):** \$ **10,000**

Contribution by Applicant (Dollars): \$ \_\_\_\_\_ In-kind \$ **3,380**  
(salaries of government employees are not considered as matching contributions)

Contribution from other Sources (Dollars): \$ **45,270-USFS** In-kind \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(attach verification - See page 2 budget template)

**Total Project Cost:** \$ **58,650**

F. Attach itemized (line item) budget – see template

G. Attach specific project plans, detailed sketches, plan views, photographs, maps, evidence of landowner consent, evidence of public support, and/or other information necessary to evaluate the merits of the project. If project involves water leasing or water salvage complete supplemental questionnaire ([fwp.mt.gov/habitat/futurefisheries/supplement2.doc](http://fwp.mt.gov/habitat/futurefisheries/supplement2.doc)).

H. Attach land management and maintenance plans that will ensure protection of the reclaimed area.

### III. PROJECT BENEFITS\*

A. What species of fish will benefit from this project?:

Westslope cutthroat trout and bull trout

B. How will the project protect or enhance wild fish habitat?:

Habitat conditions within Gleason Creek are good with low levels of disturbance along the streambank and relatively low levels of fine sediment in stream gravels used for spawning. Average summer water temperatures are close to 57 degrees. Upgrading of undersized stream crossing structure and reducing risk of structure failure will not only provide for complete aquatic organism passage but will reduce risk for further increases in sediment levels which were found to be elevated below the crossing as compared with conditions above.

C. Will the project improve fish populations and/or fishing? To what extent?:

Yes, by providing off-site recruitment to Nevada Creek and angling opportunities on-site.

D. Will the project increase public fishing opportunity for wild fish and, if so, how?:

Yes, by increasing wild trout habitat in the Blackfoot River drainage. The public also has legal streamside access via adjacent USFS lands.

E. If the project requires maintenance, what is your time commitment to this project?:

The USFS has committed to maintaining the culvert for its life expectancy. The proposed structure will be essentially maintenance-free structures and the life expectancy is estimated at 50 to 75 years.

F. What was the cause of habitat degradation in the area of this project and how will the project correct the cause?:

Already answered.

G. What public benefits will be realized from this project?:

This project involves the continuation of the Blackfoot River Restoration program and the restoration of a westslope cutthroat stream. Public benefits include: 1) recruitment of recreational fisheries to Nevada Creek, 2) improved water quality (sediment reductions) on-site and downstream, and 3) contribute to the recovery of a species of special concern.

H. Will the project interfere with water or property rights of adjacent landowners? (explain):

No

I. Will the project result in the development of commercial recreational use on the site?: (explain):

No

J. Is this project associated with the reclamation of past mining activity?:

No

**Each approved project sponsor must enter into a written agreement with the Department specifying terms and duration of the project.**

**IV. AUTHORIZING STATEMENT**

I (we) hereby declare that the information and all statements to this application are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my (our) knowledge and that the project or activity complies with rules of the Future Fisheries Improvement Program.

Applicant Signature:  Date:

Sponsor (if applicable):

**\*Highlighted boxes will automatically expand.**

**Mail To: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
Habitat Protection Bureau  
PO Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701**

**Incomplete or late applications will be returned to applicant.**

**Applications may be rejected if this form is modified.**

**\*\*\*Applications may be submitted at anytime, but must be received by the Future Fisheries Program office in Helena before December 1 and June 1 of each year to be considered for the subsequent funding period.\*\*\***



Photos 1-2: Existing outlet and inlet on stream crossing structure near stream-mile 0.1 on Gleason Creek.