

**FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM  
GRANT APPLICATION**

*(please fill in the highlighted areas)*

**I. APPLICANT INFORMATION**

- A. Applicant Name: Jason Lindstrom – Fisheries Biologist; MFWP
- B. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 24
- C. City: Anaconda State: MT Zip: 59711  
 Telephone: (406) 563-7435 E-mail: jilindstrom@mt.gov
- D. Contact Person: Same as above  
 Address if different from Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Landowner and/or Lessee Name (if other than Applicant): Montana State Prison  
 Mailing Address: 400 Conley Lake Road  
 City: Deer Lodge State: MT Zip: 59722  
 Telephone: (406) 846-1320 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**II. PROJECT INFORMATION\***

- A. Project Name: La Marche Creek Culvert Replacement and Fish Passage Enhancement  
 River, stream, or lake: La Marche Creek (near Deer Lodge, MT)  
 Location: Township: 8N Range: 10W Section: 20  
 Latitude: 46.429 Longitude: -112.888 *within project (decimal degrees)*  
 County: Powell
- B. Purpose of Project:  
This project will improve fish passage at an existing road crossing where currently a perched culvert exists. The culvert will be replaced with a timber, clear-span bridge to allow for a natural channel under the crossing.

C. Brief Project Description:

La Marche Creek is a small headwater stream in the Upper Clark Fork Basin that flows mostly through property owned and managed by the Montana State Prison. The stream supports about 1.5 miles of habitat that is occupied by only native westslope cutthroat trout. At present, this population is at risk of extirpation based on low population numbers. This is likely related to degraded habitat conditions as well as a migration impediment in the form of a perched culvert that currently exists near the middle of the occupied reach. This project would enhance fish movement in La Marche Creek by replacing the perched culvert with a timber, clear-span bridge. The existing road crossing consists of a squashed 48" CMP that was likely not embedded properly and is now perched approximately 10" - 12". Replacing the pipe with a bridge would allow fish below the pipe unrestricted access to about 0.9 miles of additional habitat.

The replacement of this crossing would be done in concert with a planned timber sale that will take place on Prison owned lands starting in 2015. The existing crossing is adequate for logging traffic, so without supplemental funding the replacement of this culvert is unlikely in the near future. The work would be performed by the company that has the contract for the timber harvest (Sun Mountain Lumber) as they will be doing other road improvements in the area in preparation for timber hauling. Materials for the timber bridge abutments would be provided from materials on-site. Stringers for the bridge would be provided by FWP. The stringers to be used are from replaced county road bridges, and are currently located in Warm Springs, MT, not far from the project site.

An additional but separate component of the overall project in La Marche Creek will include fencing up to 1.5 miles of the stream with log-worm style fence to prevent livestock access to the channel. As part of the contract, Sun Mountain Lumber will be setting aside materials for this fence construction. La Marche Creek currently suffers from intense livestock pressure in the riparian area, and the construction of this enclosure fence will be extremely beneficial to stream health and the westslope cutthroat trout fishery that is present.

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

Approximately 30' of channel would be impacted by this project. Westslope cutthroat trout occupy approximately 1.5 miles of La Marche Creek. The existing culvert that would be replaced is located near the middle of this 1.5 mile reach.

E. Project Budget:

**Grant Request (Dollars): \$ 8,400.00**

Contribution by Applicant (Dollars): \$ 0 In-kind \$ 2,700

(salaries of government employees are not considered as matching contributions)

Contribution from other Sources (Dollars): \$ 0 In-kind \$ 0

(attach verification - See page 2 budget template)

**Total Project Cost: \$ 11,100**

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?:

Based on sampling conducted by FWP, native westslope cutthroat trout are the only species present.

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

This project will enhance fish movement in La Marche Creek.

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

This project will allow for increased upstream movement by westslope cutthroat trout in La Marche Creek. The culvert is approximately in the middle of the reach occupied by the species, so removing the migration barrier would approximately double the amount of habitat available to fish found below the existing crossing. This should improve spawning site access and subsequently, recruitment.

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

While La Marche Creek is accessible to the public, this project will likely have little impact on public fishing opportunity. The stream is poorly connected to other waters and is very small and provides very limited angling opportunities.

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

The bridge would be maintained by the Montana State Prison as part of their road infrastructure. The predicted life span of a bridge constructed in this way is approximately 20-25 years.

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

The culvert was not properly embedded into the stream channel and has subsequently become perched over time. Additionally the grade at the site makes it challenging to reset the existing culvert and still maintain unrestricted fish passage. Replacing the culvert with a bridge will provide for a natural channel at the crossing and allow for unobstructed fish passage.

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

The preservation of a native species in historically occupied habitat.

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

**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: 5-28-2015

Sponsor (if applicable):

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

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

**E-mail To: Michelle McGree  
[mmcgree@mt.gov](mailto:mmcgree@mt.gov)**

**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.\*\*\***

Pictures of Existing Crossing:



Pipe outlet.

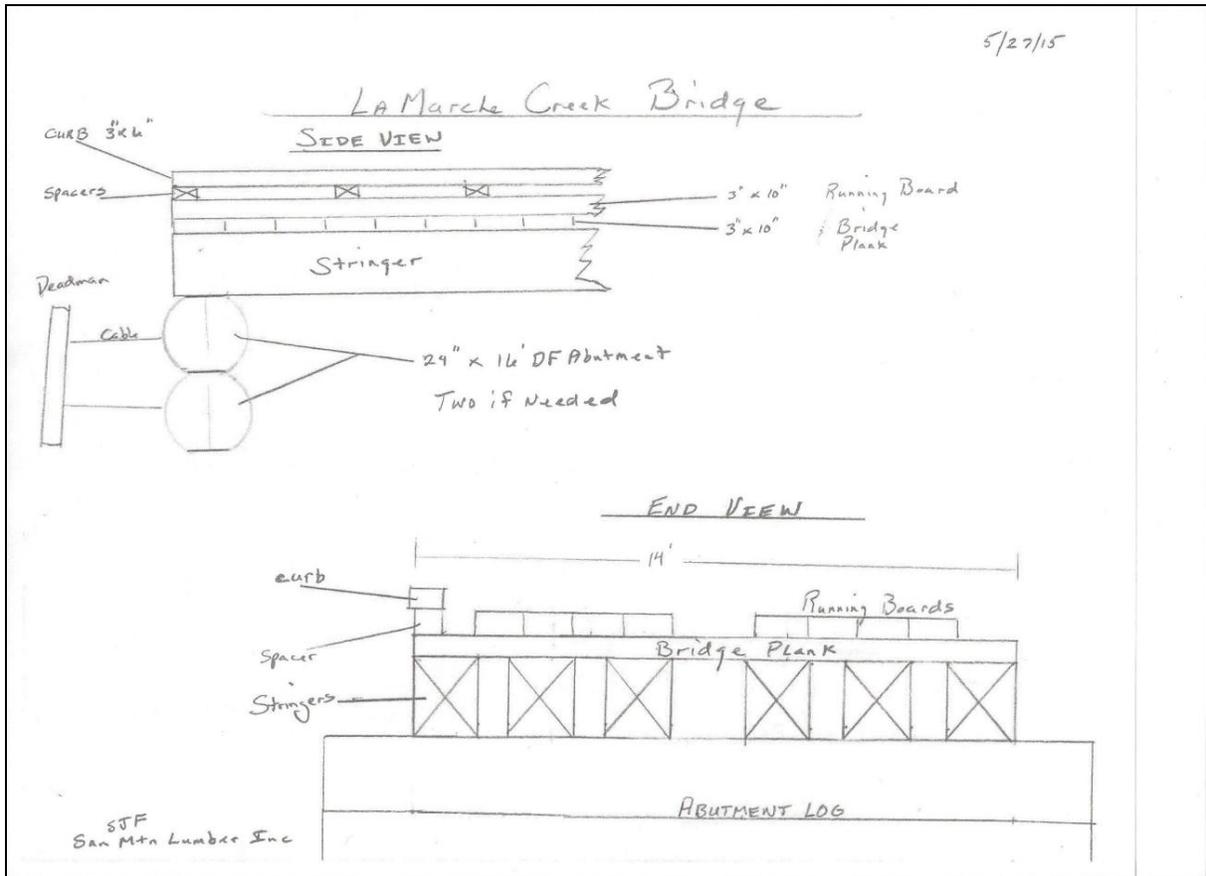


Pipe inlet.

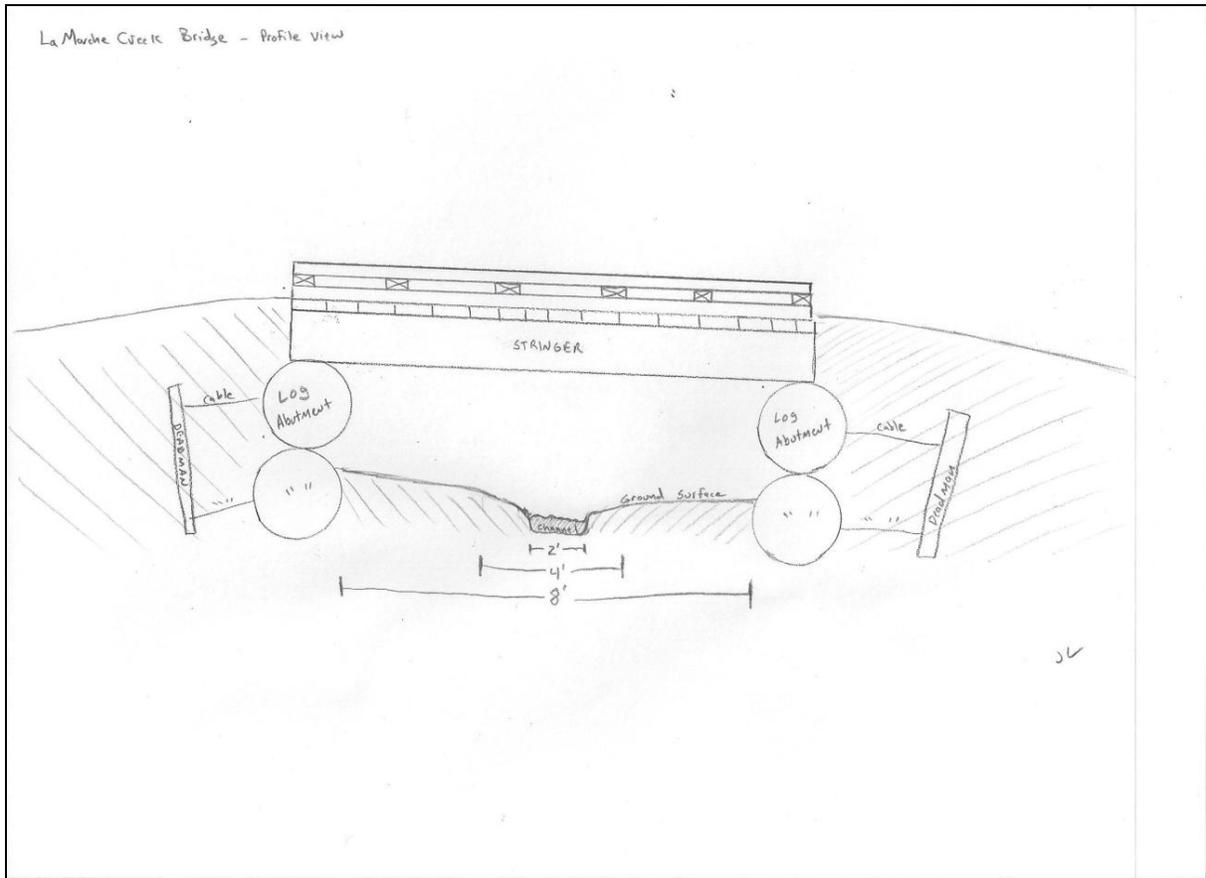


Road surface at existing crossing.

Timber bridge design.



La Marche Creek bridge schematic.



**BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS**

WORK ITEMS (ITEMIZE BY CATEGORY)	NUMBER OF UNITS	UNIT DESCRIPTION*	COST/UNIT	TOTAL COST	CONTRIBUTIONS			
					FUTURE FISHERIES REQUEST	IN-KIND SERVICES	IN-KIND CASH	TOTAL
<b>Personnel</b>								
Survey				\$ -	-			\$ -
Design				\$ -	-			\$ -
Engineering				\$ -	-			\$ -
Permitting				\$ -	-			\$ -
Oversight				\$ -	-			\$ -
Labor	30 hours		\$30.00	\$ 900.00	900.00			\$ 900.00
			Sub-Total	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 900.00
<b>Travel</b>								
Mileage				\$ -				\$ -
Per diem				\$ -				\$ -
			Sub-Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Construction Materials</b>								
Abutments & Decking	4 MBF		\$700.00	\$ 2,800.00	2,800.00			\$ 2,800.00
Stringers	10 17" x 20' beam		\$270.00	\$ 2,700.00			2,700.00	\$ 2,700.00
Hardware	1 LS		\$500.00	\$ 500.00	500.00			\$ 500.00
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
			Sub-Total	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 3,300.00	\$ -	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 6,000.00
<b>Equipment</b>								
Excavator	16 hours		\$175.00	\$ 2,800.00	2,800.00			\$ 2,800.00
Haul Trucks	5 hours		\$100.00	\$ 500.00	500.00			\$ 500.00
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
			Sub-Total	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 3,300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,300.00
<b>Mobilization</b>								
Mobilization	1 LS		\$900.00	\$ 900.00	900.00			\$ 900.00
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
			Sub-Total	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 900.00
<b>TOTALS</b>				\$ 11,100.00	\$ 8,400.00	\$ -	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 11,100.00

**BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS**

\*Units = feet, hours, inches, lump sum, etc.

**MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS**

CONTRIBUTOR	IN-KIND SERVICE	IN-KIND CASH	TOTAL	Verified? (Y/N)
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	



## Montana Department of Corrections

Montana Correctional Enterprises (MCE) Division  
Administrative/Accounting Services

Steve Bullock, Governor

Mike Batista, Director

May 27, 2015

Jason Lindstrom

MFWP

PO Box 24

Anaconda, MT 59711

Dear Jason,

Thank you for bringing the idea of a wooden bridge forward for the crossing of LaMarche Creek. Montana Correctional Enterprises supports the bridge proposal as it will serve our purposes very well and will improve the fishery. It seems to be advantageous to all parties concerned.

Sincerely,

Andrew T. Olcott

MCE Business Manager



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**Casey Hackathorn**

*Upper Clark Fork Project Manager*

May 29, 2015

To: Michelle McGree  
MFWP  
Habitat Protection Bureau  
Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701

From: Casey Hackathorn  
Trout Unlimited  
111 N. Higgins, Suite 500  
Missoula, MT 59802

RE: Support for La Marche Creek Culvert Replacement and Fish Passage Enhancement Project

Trout Unlimited supports the project objectives of improving fish passage and riparian habitat on La Marche Creek. Replacing the barrier culvert and installing riparian fencing will reconnect and protect the habitat necessary for the long-term survival of a resident conservation population of westslope cutthroat trout. The DNRC timber sale provides a unique opportunity to minimize the cost of this restoration project. Please support the project as proposed by FWP.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Casey Hackathorn