

FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PRIORITIZATION
SUMMER 2026 FUNDING CYCLE

Montana ARM Rule 12.7.1203

(1) Eligible projects that have been approved by the review panel will be reviewed, evaluated and ranked by a committee that includes at least two department personnel with a background in fishery biology and an understanding of the habitat requirements of fish and one member of the review panel.

The Committee’s ranking of the Future Fisheries Projects approved for funding by the Citizen Review Panel during the Summer 2026 funding cycle are as follows:

FINAL SCORES					
Project #	Project Name	Program cost (\$)	Total cost (\$)	Average Reviewer Score (of 100)	Review Rank
010-2026	Darkhorse Creek Aquatic Passage	7,500 00	\$334,808.00	89	1
023-2026	Wasson Creek Channel Maintenance Flow	30,000 00	\$160,000.00	81	2
014-2026	Lower Cottonwood Creek Restoration Phase 1	74,500 00	\$535,664.90	80	3
012-2026	Hound Creek restoration	53,524 00	\$238,392.00	78	4
009-2026	Cameron Creek Beaver Mimicry	33,770 00	\$160,522.00	75	5
017-2026	Red Rock Creek Fish Removal Project	23,420 00	\$79,965.00	75	6
022-2026	Upper O’Brien Creek Restoration Project (2nd request)	25,605 00	\$40,582.86 (total \$272,055)	73	7
018-2026	Red Rock Creek Stock Water System	34,250 00	\$68,500.00	73	8
019-2026	Rock Creek Headgates	48,000 00	\$96,000.00	73	8
020-2026	Ruby Creek Stock Water System	20,000 00	\$55,500.00	73	8
016-2026	Parsons Slough Irrigation Change	36,265 98	\$135,231.96	73	11
021-2026	Upper Jefferson River Restoration	60,000 00	\$1,574,057.00	68	12
015-2026	Marsh Creek Restoration	18,332 50	\$36,665.00	66	13
013-2026	Kamperschroer Spring Creek Resubmittal	88,431 93	\$124,924.93 (total \$366,232)	65	14
011-2026	Gallatin River Restoration	12,500 00	\$324,221.24	65	15

Rankings are based on: 1) benefits to native fish; 2) public benefits; 3) importance of the waterbody; 4) long-term effectiveness; 5) benefits relative to cost; and 6) cost share. **The ranking committee and Citizen Review Panel recommends that all prioritized projects receive final funding approval according to the Program cost (above).**