

**MISSOURI-MADISON RIVER FUND
RECREATION PROJECT
APPLICATION FORM FY2018**

Project Name: **FWP Region 4 Kiosks**

Reservoir or River Segment: Missouri River County(ies): Cascade, Lewis & Clark

Site Name (or legal location if no site name): Mid Canon, York Bridge, Wolf Creek Bridge, Craig

Applicant Name and Agency: Vicki Robinson, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.
 Position (if applicable) Fishing Access Site Program Manager
 Address _ 4600 Giant Springs Road, Great Falls, MT, 59405
 Telephone # 406-454-5854 E-mail: vrobinson@mt.gov

Project Sponsor:

A Project Sponsor is required in order to submit an application to the River Fund. Project sponsors serve as active members of Missouri-Madison Regional Working Groups, and include representatives of the U.S. Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks; local government; Madison, Gallatin, Broadwater, Chouteau, Lewis and Clark, or Cascade Counties; NorthWestern Energy and the Bureau of Reclamation. Visit www.missourimadison.com for a list of current Regional Working Group members.

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Complete the financial section below by providing total project cost, contributions by applicant and cooperators, request for NorthWestern Energy match of agency funds (see detail on page 2 of this application), and River Fund Grant request. Document in-kind contributions by public agencies for determination of NorthWestern Energy match request. A description of funding sources and in-kind contributions should be included in the Project Description.

Financial Support

Total Project Cost: \$ 30,000

	York Bridge	Mid Canon/Craig Wolf Creek Bridge	<u>Project</u>
Total Project Cost:	\$7,500	\$22,500	\$30,000

Applicant Contributions: (materials/labor/ fleet for removal/installation)	\$ 750	\$2,250	\$ 3,000
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NorthWestern Energy Match Request:	\$ 750	\$562.50	\$1,312
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River Fund Grant Request:	\$ 6,000	\$ 19,687.50	\$25,688
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Proposed Project Implementation Period: Spring/Summer 2017

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APPLICATION FORM FY2017**

1. Has this project been previously submitted for funding consideration by the River Fund Board, either as a separate project or part of another project? **NO**

If yes, please identify which years the application was submitted and, if the project was previously funded, list the amount funded by year.

2. Is the proposed project at one of the Project 2188 license sites identified in the Missouri-Madison MOU and listed on page A2-2 of the Comprehensive Recreation Plan? **No**
3. **Project Description:** Provide a brief (½ page) description of the proposed project.

We are replacing the old wood kiosks with a more permanent and vandal-proof style that are much bigger and more efficient in the operations of the FAS Program. Mid Canon FAS, York Bridge, Wolf Creek Bridge and Craig FAS are sites that either need to be replaced or a new one installed. These wooden structures are being damaged by the year-round weather conditions, wildlife and misuse. Every part of those kiosks is constructed out of wood and this causes constant upkeep. To post anything, it must be either a metal sign or be laminated. Wolf Creek Bridge FAS does not currently have a kiosk in place but needs to have one installed. Mid Canon FAS will have a second kiosk installed at a second launch area. Craig needs to replace an old wood style kiosk. These kiosks will help us eliminate having random signs placed all over the site. It helps keeps the sites looking less cluttered and has a “go to” place to get all types of information. There will always be something that we need posted at some sites and not others. Besides the obvious things like fishing regulations or site rules, we need to post things in the urban area sites that may not be needed at sites that are more rural. Examples are area construction projects, regional contacts, wildlife sightings, physical address for emergencies, etc. FAS staff provide \$3,000 in-kind services towards removal of the old kiosk and the site preparation of all new kiosks. The new type of kiosk is maintenance free, visually more appealing in the site, built to last for years and will be in a placed in a central location for anyone using our fishing access site.

4. **Cultural Resource Management:** Cultural Resource Management (CRM) requirements for any activity related to this Project must be completed and documented to NorthWestern Energy (pursuant to Article 425 of the FERC Project 2188 License) prior to expenditure of River Fund grants and NorthWestern Energy matching funds for any land-disturbing activity or the modification, renovation, or removal of any buildings or structures. Agency applicants must submit a copy of the proposed project to a designated Cultural Resource Specialist for their agency. Private parties or non-governmental organizations are encouraged to submit a copy of their proposed project to a CRM consultant they may have employed. River Fund grant and NorthWestern Energy matching fund payments, for those projects approved by the Board, will be withheld until this CRM information has been submitted. Summarize how you will comply with CRM requirements and provide evidence of completion to NorthWestern Energy.

Fish, Wildlife and Parks Design and Construction division is required to obtain clearance from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) before any project is started. That letter of approval will be on file and available to NorthWestern Energy. FWP must also do a search the Montana Natural Historical Preservation (MNHP) database to find any species of concern. No work will be started until FWP receives a letter of approval.

5. Respond to the following Scoring Criteria in no more than two (2) additional written pages on 8.5 x 11 inch paper, with 1-inch margins on all sides, in a font not smaller than 11 point. Be sure page numbers are included in a footer within the margin of each page.

Scoring Criteria

- 5.1 *Project is for operation and maintenance of an existing recreation site or an existing Project 2188 license site.* Describe how the project would support O&M needs at an existing recreation site that are over and above day-to-day site maintenance. Needs may include measures to open a site for public use as well as minor repair; facility upgrade, reconstruction, and replacement; and major site rehabilitation.

This grant is for the purchase of 4 kiosks to be placed at 4 different FAS locations. Mid Canon, Wolf Creek Bridge, York Bridge and Craig fishing access sites. These 1 panel kiosks are double sided, have graffiti over laminate to protect the Plexiglas, have a metal gable roof and are made of tamper resistant construction. These kiosks are virtually maintenance free once they are installed. We will be incorporating this style to replace all our wooden kiosks that are currently in place. Most of our existing kiosks are made of wood and are completely open to the elements. Without constant upkeep and maintenance of these kiosks they just look run down and wore out. The wooden shingles fall off and get warped and the other wood pieces of the kiosk get damaged by vehicles, wildlife and deteriorate from constant sun, wind and moisture exposure. We also experience unapproved postings by businesses. They nail or staple a sign on the wooden posts. That means we have nails sticking that could become a safety issue. Originally, when the kiosks were first installed the site use was much different. By replacing existing kiosks, we will be able to place them in a location that will be more appropriate for today's volume of use. Replacing the wooden kiosks will eliminate painting, staining, replacing wooden shingles and slats, laminating every item we post, replacing laminated signs and replacing wooden posts. This not only saves on the cost of materials, but all staff time used for each repair. We must prioritize each job when we are at our sites. Unfortunately, kiosk maintenance is always last on the list because it is not an immediate safety issue. Historically, FWP used wooden signs, wooden posts and wooden kiosks at state sites. These are slowly being replaced with materials that are maintenance free and last for years. Safety issues are always taken care of first, then basic maintenance, to keep the sites operating for public use. Now the existing wooded kiosks are becoming too much of a maintenance issue. They need to be replaced with a longer lasting material. The goal is to have one of these kiosks installed at any site that needs one.

- 5.2 *Project involves collaboration with other agencies or organizations.* Identify project partners other than NorthWestern Energy or River Fund, if any, and describe their participation. Document all funding sources and all in-kind support and services to a project, because all are sources of partnerships and in-kind contributions from public agencies qualify for calculation of NorthWestern Energy matching funds. If there are no project partners, explain why.

We have a group of volunteers who work all year at our sites. Updating the kiosks is included in their work. Besides all the work that they do, they also provide us with eyes on the ground for any misuse or strange behavior. We also get diverse types of signs, information brochures and posters from the AIS program, Montana Weed Control Association, Boater Safety and various conservation/recreation groups. Last year we had a student intern who could organize some material at various kiosks.

5.3 Project provides a benefit to public recreation in the Project Area and addresses specific issues and goals of the Missouri-Madison Comprehensive Recreation Plan (CRP). Identify how the project provides a benefit to public recreation. Describe how specific issues and goals in Chapter 2-1 of the CRP would be supported.

The kiosks will benefit the public by providing additional public safety tools, more educational opportunities and a place to learn more about outdoor recreation programs offered by FWP. Visually, the wooden kiosks are not appealing. They do not catchy and open look to them that draw people to them. The new kiosks will look sharp, be placed in the most ideal location and provide more space to share information. There are many things that need to be kept posted on the kiosks all year round. The site address is very important. If the public has an emergency, they will need to have an address to send to emergency services. We will be able to post the physical address, section, township and range, but also the long/lat coordinates. Another important thing to post is where there is cell service along the river. We have a large chunk of the river that does not have service. This information can be very helpful for new users. Every year we get calls about certain fishing and boating rules. We also have people that want to know about other sites along the river corridor. Our FAS program will start to implement river mile maps at various sites to show people how long it will take from point A to point B on the river. By having the kiosk there we will be able to have a posting of the frequently asked questions. I emphasize that we cannot have signs everywhere so by having the kiosk there, we will be able to provide much needed information. We currently have on our large regulation signs the logo for "Leave No Trace", a program that FWP supports. We would like to have more information available for people to get a full understanding why this is a valuable program and how they can participate. We are getting a great deal of inexperienced users and tourists that are not so familiar with the fishing/boating and FAS regulations. These kiosks will enable us to provide much needed information for public safety and educational material for natural resources, rules & regulations and much more.

5.4 Project responds to a clearly identified need. Describe and document the need for this project and how the project would address that need. Cite specific sources, as possible, to establish need and support the project. Discuss consequences if the funding request is unsuccessful. For a new construction or acquisition project, identify how post-project, long-term costs (such as site maintenance and management) will be provided.

All our sites with a kiosk have the wooden kiosk without a roof. They require more maintenance than staff can provide. Some of them are past the point of repair so we just have to remove them completely. It is not cost effective to replace the kiosk with another wooden kiosk. We have had to make special signs to reflect one specific issue and placed them in various spots in the site. Those signs range from \$10 to \$30 each. For example, we have rattlesnakes at most of our sites, however, the sites that are closer to Great Falls get a lot of calls from users who were scared when they saw a rattlesnake. Pelican Point is one site where we need to put something on the kiosk about rattlesnakes because we get a lot of city folks visiting that site. We need a place where people can go to and get information on all sorts of things. From river miles, camping opportunities, site rules, public safety information and learn more about programs like Leave No Trace. We also need to educate people about FWP's Tip-Mont hotline. It seems that people only think it is for hunting violations. They do not know that they can call it for any violation they witnessed. This is something that we will be able to explain how it is a valuable resource for many types of violations. Signs are also stolen or shot up at many sites. If we have signs that keep getting shot up or stolen, we stop replacing them. The kiosk will

require a key to open the panel to add material. This will help keep costs down with vandalism and theft. It will also stop people from hanging up business flyers or other non-FWP items. The type of kiosk we want to install are expensive and have very high shipping costs with them. We are not able to purchase even just one kiosk a year due to the cost. We won't do that because the shipping cost, on top of the cost of the unit, would be too big of a hit on our operational budget. This grant is the only resource we have to keep the consistency of the type of kiosks we want throughout all of our sites in region 4.

5.5 Project design options have been considered, estimated, and a preferred design selected. Well-designed projects reduce occurrences of budgetary overages, design changes, and additional complications. Discuss the current design phase for this project and include cost estimates.

The current cost for 4 kiosks (including S&H & installation) is \$30,000. They will be purchased from Rockart, Inc. Signs and Markers, out of Mesa, AZ. This includes all the parts for 4 units, the special tool required for installation and all the hardware. The FAS program staff will contribute \$3,000 in labor, materials and fuel towards the removal of old kiosks and the preparation of installation of the new kiosks. Due to the time and specialty of the work we will hire a contract to install all 4 units. This grant is for \$5,000 more than our 2017 grant due to the contractors cost for installation. Our crew will call to have utilities marked for the sites that do not have a kiosk or if we move the location at a site that does have a kiosk.

5.6 Project supports or protects other resources and is consistent with or supports resource plans in the Project Area. In addition to project-related benefits under #3 above, describe how this project will protect resource values (such as public access, water quality, fisheries, wildlife, habitats, and cultural resources) and support other resource plans, including Project 2188 License plans and land use and land management plans in place in the Corridor.

Education!

This project will help in the protection of resource values in multiple ways. First, FWP will be able to provide a great deal more educational information about the surrounding natural resources. We can provide details on the types of fish in the water (for those new to the area or to fishing), describe fish habitat, wildlife habitat, how trash and misuse of the area effects wildlife and natural resources and a description of invasive species and why they are bad for the resources, etc. Public safety is another area that we can provide more information. Things like the address, what river mile you are on, what to do in case of an emergency, when to call Tip-Mont, what do you do if you hear a siren while on the water, what to do if you encounter wildlife, etc. There are so many questions that could be answered out in the field if we had the proper amenities in our sites. By adding the kiosks, we can decrease the number of signs we have placed all over the site. People see so many signs throughout the day that they don't always pay attention. A kiosk is a place for people to go and read all kinds of information. People will seek out a kiosk. The more we can do to educate people, and help them understand why we have such rules, and why we need to protect our resources, the better our sites will be for future. Region 4 FAS' has the highest number of total angler days from residents of the state with 80%. Our sites also have 70% of days during the summer season. These kiosks provide us with an avenue to get a lot of information out there with little effort. Our sites also have the second highest number of angler pressure with over 500,169 angler days.

6. Attach map(s) showing the location of the proposed project, drawings and design work related to the project, and photos (as available) at the end of the application.



Mid Canon



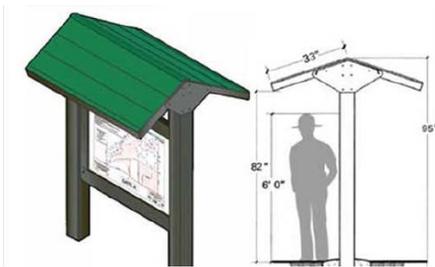
York Bridge FAS



Wolf Creek Bridge



Craig



This is the style of kiosk we have been replacing the old ones with. We currently have this style at some sites in the rocky mountain front and at 4 different sites along the Missouri River.

7. Permitting and Planning Acknowledgement:

By submitting this application, and with an award of grant funds, applicant agrees that all permitting and planning requirements, such as NEPA and MEPA and cultural resource compliance, will be completed *prior to expenditures of awarded funds*. Furthermore, all design, layout, and contractual requirements will be completed in a timely manner.