

Lewis & Clark Conservation District



Long Range Plan 2021-2023

Approved-January 14, 2021

THE MISSION OF THE LEWIS & CLARK CONSERVATION DISTRICT IS TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP IN THE CONSERVATION AND WISE USE
OF SOIL, WATER, AND RELATED RESOURCES

Education – Provide conservation education opportunities targeting issues, and maintain quality customer service in Lewis and Clark Conservation District

	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Watershed Model	Investigate the possibility of use / cost of watershed model program for local schools	\$1,000	Associate Supervisor David Martin	Should know more from Heidi Fleury
Website & Social Networking	Update & track website and other social networking platforms with pertinent information regarding Lewis & Clark Conservation District	\$1200 in Marketing for hosting and assoc. expenses	All CD Staff, All Board Members	As needed
Summer Tours/Seminars	Riparian Grazing workshop-Augusta area	\$3500 budgeted under Seminars; \$1307 in SWCD Grant,	Administrator Chris Evans; Resource Technician Connor Mertz, Supervisors	Late Spring 2021
	Stream Workshop – classroom / field tour – Spokane Creek-2021	\$3500 budgeted under Seminars; \$3000 in grant	All Supervisors, CD Staff	2021-2023
	Lake Helena Restoration Workshop/Tour with Tim Holds		Jeff, CD Staff	March/April 2021
Youth Education	Natural Resource Youth Camp sponsorships to county students	Reimburse 1/2 registrations for students, up to \$750 annually	Administrator Chris Evans	2021-2023
	Montana Youth Range Camp sponsorship	223 Grant, \$4317.50	Administrator Chris Evans, Resource Technician Connor Mertz	July 2021

Education – Provide conservation education opportunities targeting issues, and maintain quality customer service in Lewis and Clark Conservation District

	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
	Envirothon –financial assistance and other assistance as necessary; outreach to new high school in East Helena	\$6,000 total budgeted for teams	Administrator Chris Evans, Associate Supervisor David Martin, Associate Supervisor Karl Christians	2021-2023
	Coordinate with East Helena School District to work with them on the CTE program, FFA chapter, and more.		Administrator Chris Evans, Associate Supervisor Karl Christians, Associate Supervisor David Martin	2021-2023
	Flood Awareness Day-Collaboratively work with partners to plan a 6 th grade education day regarding flooding, etc.		Administrator Chris Evans, Associate Supervisor David Martin, Supervisor Sarah Howe-Cobb	Annually by May
	Ag-Ed Day with East Helena 4 th grade	\$850	Supervisor Karl Christians, Administrator Chris Evans	May 2021
	Prickly Pear Land Trust Field Education Events		Resource Technician Connor Mertz, Administrator Chris Evans, Conservation Planner Andrew Kretschmer, Supervisor Jeff Ryan	On-going
	Outreach to Lincoln and Augusta School for Education Efforts		Administrator Chris Evans	2021-2023

Education – Provide conservation education opportunities targeting issues, and maintain quality customer service in Lewis and Clark Conservation District

	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
310 Permit Program	Educate landowners regarding the 310 law and permitting process		Administrator Chris Evans; Resource Technician Connor Mertz	2021-2023
	Assist MRCDC with the educational project, “Living on the Bank”	223 Grant-\$1500 remaining	Supervisor Jeff Ryan, Administrator Chris Evans	2021
	310 Committee		Supervisors Jeff Ryan and Stan Frasier, Administrator Chris Evans	2021-2023
Newsletter	Compile quarterly newsletter and distribute	\$9750 for 2021	CD Staff, All Board Members	Quarterly (1 st of January, April July, October)
Rolling River Trailer	Schedule and use at events as appropriate; contract with MACD; move trailer; set up; run session; break down and return to office; stored at DNRC in winter; maintain as needed		CD Staff	Field Season
	Maintenance grant for 2014 and beyond for statewide trailer upkeep	223 Grant \$5250	Administrator Chris Evans	2021-2023
Urban Conservation	Rain Barrel Workshop, Gardening, Composting, Water Usage, etc.	\$3500 budgeted under Seminars	Resource Technician Connor Mertz; Administrator Chris Evans	2021-2023
Legislative	Provide resolutions by September 1 to MACD; during session provide testimony / email contacts, social events		All CD Staff, All Board Members	Bi-annually
	In preparation, engage with local elected officials, invite to a breakfast, or meeting,		Administrator Chris Evans, All Supervisors	Start February 2022

Education – Provide conservation education opportunities targeting issues, and maintain quality customer service in Lewis and Clark Conservation District

	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
	lunch, beer tasting. Additionally, provide newsletters and annual report.			
Display / Brochure Development	Set up a new display for CD	\$1200 in Marketing	Associate Supervisor David Martin, CD Staff	2021-2022
	Develop story map / online resources to share District projects.		Resource Technician Connor Mertz	2021
New Streamside Landowners Letter	Send postcards to new owners of stream side property to introduce CD and 310 law	310 admin grant if available; otherwise education bgt.	Administrator Chris Evans, Associate Supervisor Chris Carparelli	2021-2023

Water Resources - to work with local landowners, watershed groups, and agencies as requested and able to resolve water quality and quantity issues in the District

	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Floodplain	Stay up to date on current floodplain regulations and information in the county to help keep board and landowners informed		Administrator Chris Evans, Supervisor Jeff Ryan, Supervisor Stan Frasier	2021-2023
	Stream Restoration Committee with DNRC- work to identify flexibility in floodplain permit regulation that allows issuance of a permit without expensive time-consuming engineering analysis for stream and bank restoration projects	223 Grants-Stream Restoration Guidelines (\$2500) and Spokane Creek (\$4500) for Engineering help; CD Cash match	Administrator Chris Evans, Supervisor Jeff Ryan, Supervisor Stan Frasier, Supervisor Karl Christians	2021-2023

Water Resources - to work with local landowners, watershed groups, and agencies as requested and able to resolve water quality and quantity issues in the District

	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
		\$3000 out of Special Projects		
Water Quality	Assist landowners as requested and able, to improve water quality in the District		Supervisor Jeff Ryan, Administrator Chris Evans, SRWG Tracy Wendt	2021-2023
	Willow Creek Feeder Canal project	RRG Grant-\$125,000	Administrator Chris Evans	Through 2023
	Water test cost share	\$1000	CD Staff	2021
Irrigation	Coordinate with local irrigation projects		Conservation Planner Andrew Kretschmer, Helena Valley Irrigation District, Greenfield Irrigation District	On-going
Stream & Waterbody Restoration Projects	Provide expertise and assistance to regional stream restoration projects, emphasize use of "green techniques"	Travel expenses for Supervisor Jeff Ryan and staff as needed should be paid by project recipient	All CD Staff, Supervisor Jeff Ryan	On-going
	Two Dot willow soil lift project - summarize project details for the Stream Project page on the website		Supervisor Jeff Ryan, CD Staff	Project work completed; website page 2021

Water Resources - to work with local landowners, watershed groups, and agencies as requested and able to resolve water quality and quantity issues in the District

	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
	Lake Helena willow soil lift project. Incorporate signage around project to target boaters	Cost Share Program Recipient	Landowner Tim Olds, Supervisor Jeff Ryan	2021
	Sevenmile Creek willow cutting and planting; collaboration with stream project	223 Grant, \$20,000 for PPLT	Supervisor Jeff Ryan, Prickly Pear Land Trust	2021
	Beaver Creek restoration project. Help cut willows and sponsoring grant for phase 2 of project. High profile location offers potential for outreach.	Sponsoring RRGL grant for 2nd phase	Supervisor Jeff Ryan, Resource Technician Connor Mertz, Conservation Planner Andrew Kretschmer	2021-2022
	Elk Creek Channel Migration Zone (CMZ) Study	223 Grant-\$11,975	Supervisor Jeff Ryan, Administrator Chris Evans, Resource Technician Connor Mertz	2021
	Spokane Creek-Demo of willow wall, and continued work on Stream Restoration Committee floodplain permitting project	223 Grant, \$11,975, \$3000 cash match from CD for engineering and workshop	Supervisor Jeff Ryan, Administrator Chris Evans	2021
	Creation of "stream projects guide" on CD website with projected costs of materials and per foot costs of projects		Administrator Chris Evans, Resource Technician Connor Mertz, Supervisor Jeff Ryan	2021

Water Resources - to work with local landowners, watershed groups, and agencies as requested and able to resolve water quality and quantity issues in the District

	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Solar Pump	Construction of trailer which serves as a pump and watering unit for stream restoration plantings or other conservation projects. Prioritization for use on projects	Sweet Grass Conservation District Water Projects Grant; \$5015; \$2015 from Special Projects	Supervisor Jeff Ryan, Associate Supervisor Karl Christians, Conservation Planner Andrew Kretschmer, Resource Technician Connor Mertz	Trailer Completed before Spring 2021, use of trailer on-going

Land Management & Conservation- to provide assistance and encouragement to the landowners of Lewis & Clark Conservation District in maintaining healthy land

	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Weeds	Pursue and support funding for local weed efforts, education and outreach		Supervisor Sarah Howe-Cobb, Supervisor Ron Ingersoll, Supervisor Jeanette Nordahl, CD Staff, SRWG Tracy Wendt	2021-2023
	Donation of backpack sprayer to the Sun River Weed Whacker Rodeo, Elk Creek and Ford Creek Spray Day.	Backpack sprayer donated by Murdock's	Supervisor Steve Granzow	Annually for Event
	Assist the Montana Biological Weed Control Coordination Project; provide with funding annually and assist with matching landowners in need with available insects.	\$850 for 2021	All CD Staff and Supervisors	Annually

Land Management & Conservation– to provide assistance and encouragement to the landowners of Lewis & Clark Conservation District in maintaining healthy land

	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Range	Assist landowners and NRCS as possible on range health concerns in Lewis & Clark County		CD Staff	2021-2023
Forestry	Assist landowners, NRCS, and State Technical Advisory Committee as possible to help maintain a healthy forest		Conservation Planner Andrew Kretschmer, Assistant Supervisor Dave Martin	2021-2023
	Forests in Focus		Associate Supervisor Dave Martin	2021-2023
Cropland	Assist landowners and NRCS as possible to maintain cropland in Lewis & Clark County		Supervisor Steve Granzow, CD Staff	2021-2023
Recreation / Trail Program	Promote work on loop trails for hiking, biking, snowmobiles, and ATV's		Supervisor Jeanette Nordahl	2021-2023
Special Projects	Cost share program in land, stream, forest or other projects in various areas around the county	\$7500 annually	All Supervisors and CD Staff	Deadline for apps in November
	Make a plan to organize, index, and plan for scanning of old aerial imagery	\$1,000 for 2021 for scanning, electronic storage, and physical storage	CD Staff, Associate Supervisor Karl Christians	2021-2023

Land Management & Conservation– to provide assistance and encouragement to the landowners of Lewis & Clark Conservation District in maintaining healthy land

	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Shelterbelt Program	Provide species, irrigation, and planting plan assistance for landowners to order from the State Nursery; direct customers with smaller orders to Lewis & Clark County Extension Service to get better prices on nursery stock.		CD Staff	Autumn and Winter annually
Pollinator Program	Pollinator seed give away	Packaging Materials	CD Staff	Hand out all seed by Spring 2021

Partnership – Other Organizations

	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
USDA-STAC	Track activities and report back to board		Conservation Planner Andrew Kretschmer	2021-2023
Water Quality Protection District Board	Attend WQPD meetings and report back to Board		Supervisor Stan Frasier, Supervisor Jeff Ryan	2021-2023
Ten Mile Flood Group	Work with group as necessary on flood related issues		CD Staff, Supervisors	2021-2023
Montana Association of	Monitor Progress of MACD Board and MACD office to assess involvement	Dues Pending	CD Staff	2021-2023

Partnership – Other Organizations				
	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Conservation Districts (MACD)	Assist Education Committee with meetings and projects; assist in Education Funding delivery	223 Grant \$7605 for education	Administrator Chris Evans	2021-2023
	Participate in meetings, trainings and other events as able and interested		CD Staff and Supervisors	2021-2023
Employee Organization	Work with MACDEO on updating Employee Handbook, develop training and education plans, and updating EO website		Administrator Chris Evans	2021
	Participate in EO meetings and trainings		All CD Staff	2021-2023
	Encourage the EO to provide regular feedback to MACD		Administrator Chris Evans	2021-2023
Lake Helena Watershed	Participate in meeting and events		Resource Technician Connor Mertz	2021-2023
Blackfoot Challenge	Stay informed on activities		Administrator Chris Evans	2021-2023
Sun River Watershed	Participate in the Executive Committee and Workgroups to resolve natural resource issues; annual support	\$4,000 for 2021	Associate Supervisor David Martin, SRWG Coordinator Tracy Wendt	2021-2023
	Work with Teton and Cascade CDs on common resource concerns across county boundaries including permitting		Administrator Chris Evans	2021
Elk Creek Flood Task Force	Coordination of Landowner and interested party mailing and email list to disseminate up-to-date information		CD Staff	2021-2023

Partnership – Other Organizations				
	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
	Hold information meetings with landowners and interested parties		CD Staff, Supervisor Sarah Howe-Cobb	2021-2023
Healthy Watershed Consortium Initiative	Ranching for Rivers		Supervisor Jeff Ryan, Resource Technician Connor Mertz	2021
Missouri River CD Council	Attend meetings as able and report back to Board		Supervisor Jeff Ryan	2021-2023
	Living on the Bank Website project		Supervisor Jeff Ryan CD Staff and Supervisors	2021
Montana Watershed Coordination Council (MWCC)	Attend meetings as able and report back to Board	\$250 annually	Supervisor Jeff Ryan CD Staff and Supervisors Administrator Chris Evans	2021-2023
	Pay into Partners Program annually			Annually
	Apply for project funds	All CD Staff	In the fall annually	Apply for project funds
Montana Wetland Council Local Work Group Lead	Attend meetings as able and report back to Board		Supervisor Jeff Ryan; administrator Chris Evans	2021-2023
	Schedule, invite attendees and chair the Local Work Group		Administrator Chris Evans, All Supervisors	Annually
Montana Salinity Control Association	Liaison between MSCA and the Board		Supervisor Sarah Howe-Cobb	2021-2023

Partnership – Other Organizations				
	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Prickly Pear Land Trust	Collaboration on restoration projects and social media campaigns		Administrator Chris Evans and Resource Technician Connor Mertz	2021-2023
Rocky Mountain Front Weed Roundtable	Participate in the RMFWRT to help control noxious weeds along the Rocky Mountain Front	\$750 for 2021 for project work	Supervisor Sarah Howe-Cobb, Supervisor Ron Ingersoll, SRWG Coordinator Tracy Wendt	2021-2023
Montana Weed Control Association	Attend meetings as able and report to the Board		Supervisor Jeanette Nordahl, Supervisor John Baucus	2021-2023
Naked River Banks	Collaborative effort with Cascade CD	Travel costs	Supervisor Jeff Ryan, Resource Technician Connor Mertz	2021
Naked River Banks	Home owner association project on Missouri River near Great Falls	Travel costs	Supervisor Jeff Ryan	2021
Noxious Weed Management Advisory Council	Attend meetings as available and report to the Board	Travel costs	Supervisor Jeanette Nordahl, Supervisor John Baucus	On-going
Year End	Invite other agency staff as desired and schedule event	Donated mileage – CD Supervisors	Administrator Chris Evans	Annually in December

Administrative: Procedures/Laws/Rules – Resources for Administrative Functions fall under operations				
	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Staff and Supervisor Training	Review material from DNRC		All Supervisors and staff	On-going
	Provide new Supervisor and 310 training in 2021		All Supervisors and staff	2021
	Further training as necessary for Contract Administrations, GIS, etc.	\$1,000 Budgeted for 2021	All Supervisors as they request, CD Staff	As needed / requested
Self-Audit	Review DNRC's Office review/self-audit worksheet		All Supervisors and Administrator Chris Evans	Annually, January or February
Financial Review	Monthly and annual financial review of bank statements and cancelled checks		Supervisor Sarah Howe-Cobb, Supervisor Jeanette Nordahl	Monthly & Annually
Sponsor Drive	Conduct Annual Sponsor Drive to help fund the CD's Education programs		CD Staff	January every year
Rule / Law Change and Interim Committees	Distribute information on any changes in laws pertaining to CD's to the CD Board		Supervisor Jeff Ryan, Administrator Chris Evans	On-going
310 Administration	Paperwork as needed; on-site inspection scheduling and paperwork; follow up with applicants and board		Supervisors, Administrator Chris Evans, Resource Technician Connor Mertz	On-going

Administrative: Grants & Administration				
	Tasks / Duties	Resources	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Grants for Projects	Assess need for grant funding for CD led projects; Assess requests from outside entities for sponsorship for projects that fit within the CD mission; support letters		CD Staff and Supervisors	On-going
Grant agreements with sources	Keep up to date on quarterly and final reports as required; make payments as necessary		Supervisor Jeff Ryan, Administrator Chris Evans	On-going

Approved January 14, 2021

Chair	Vice Chair
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