



## **Meeting Minutes April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

### **Supervisors Present**

Kent Wilby  
Terry Hightower  
Mindy Ferrell  
Sean Moran

### **Employees Present**

Leona Gollen

### **Advisors Present**

Brita Olson  
Ryan Kreiner

### **Associate Supervisors Present**

Jean Dunn

### **Visitors Present**

**Meeting called to order at 6:50 p.m.**

**Meeting Agenda items not always taken in order that they appear**

### **Introductions**

### **Minutes 2019**

- A motion to approve March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting minutes as submitted was made by Sean 2<sup>nd</sup> by Terry, motion carried.

### **Financial Report**

- Leona reviewed the financial report with the board for the last period.
- A Motion for the administrator to investigate opportunities into investing funds in CD's by calling MACD and Whitefish CU was made by Mindy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sean, motion carried.
- A motion to approve the financial report for last period was made by Mindy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sean, motion carried.

### **Administrator's Report:**

- Meet with ESCD once per year
  - The GMCD Board thought that an annual meeting with Eastern Sanders County (ESCD) was a great idea.
  - They suggested maybe a dinner meeting possibly in October, December or around the first part of the year. November is not a good month since the convention is usually held then.
  - Leona will discuss further with Elena at ESCD.
- Road Sign on ESCD side of County

- The Ledger cost to put vinyl on the existing sign with no mention of lifetime warrantee was \$320.00. The Printery's cost for an aluminum vinyl covered sign with a lifetime warrantee is \$310.00 (both sides).
- Also, a discussion was had on how the sign will look. ESCD mention showing entering & leaving each perspective CD on both side of sign.
- GMCD Board suggest that each side just say "Entering" the perspective CD that way the letters will be bigger and stand out. No need for both "Entering and Leaving" on each side.
- Leona will have further discussion with Elena at ESCD on the specifics.
- A motion to pay half of the cost for the Printery to make the sign was made by Terry, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mindy, motion carried.
- Liability Insurance coverage for others use of Building
  - Leona contacted GMCD's liability insurance carrier to see if we were covered fully if we rented or loaned out the building. They informed GMCD that the building would be covered but any personal injury or loss of property that a renter or their customers/attendees had would not. GMCD's insurance would want a copy of the renters/occupant's own liability insurance to make sure that they had their own coverage.
  - Leona will follow up with the insurance company and find out what type of insurance each perspective group would have to have. i.e. renter versus occupant, versus event etc.
  - We will leave this on agenda for next month's meeting to get the absentee Supervisors input.
- Laurie Zeller's E-mail concerning her meeting with Mr. Bennett
  - Laurie's e-mail was discussed and the Board reiterated our policies concerning daylight basements and the cutting of trees from the bank of river's and streams.
  - It was suggested that the Supervisors put this e-mail in their binders for future reference.

#### **GMCD Website: (greenmountaincd.org)**

- See attached

#### **LCFWG COORDINATOR "WATERSHED REPORT"**

- See attached

#### **MT FWP Report**

- Shocking Walleye tonight
- Fish ladder is open. Rainbow are the first to spawn

#### **NRCS Report:**

##### **General**

- Lake County CD is submitting a grant application within the next few days for landowners interested in trying cover crops to improve soil health. Funding for the grant will cover a large % of the costs associated with purchasing the seed mix. They have offered up to 5 Sanders County residents/landowners the opportunity to participate.

##### **Programs**

- 3 EQIP SI applications (high tunnel) for the 2019-1 signup period are currently being reviewed for funding obligation. Ranking for EQIP 2019-2 applications has been completed. Preapprovals for EQIP 2019-2 applications are scheduled for the first week in June. Western Sanders County (Green Mountain District) has two applications for the EQIP 2019-2 sign-up period. Troy has begun work on inventory and evaluation of property's along the Bull River in anticipation/preparation for the 2020 Targeted Implementation Plan proposal for Sanders County.

##### **Outreach**

- Myself along with ESCD District Administrator Elena Marrinan will be conducting the annual poster competition in Eastern Sanders on 4/23/2019 & 4/24/2019. Presentations will be given to 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> graders in Hot Springs, Dixon, and Plains on the topic *We All Need Trees*.



**(SWCDM) Soil & Water Conservation District of Montana**

- See attached

**Education**

- See attached

**Old Business:**

- Leona will contact Marc for Fisheries Watershed Festival
- Leona will contact Travis for Forestry WF
- Leona will contact Ray Vinkey at FS Tracks WF

**Building Repair Project:**

- Nothing to Report

**No-Till Drill/Gopher-Getter:**

- Nothing to Report

**New Business:**

- Nothing to Report

**Subdivision Review:**

- Nothing to Report

**Time Allowed for comments from the Public not already on the agenda:**

**310 Activities**

- NWE Collaboration Meeting
  - There will be a boat tour of the Thompson Falls reservoir this summer with NWE to evaluate and see firsthand the erosion issues. Leona & Mark will be scheduling this

**SW-07-19 Fister**

- A motion that the application was incomplete was made in February.
- A motion that the application is still not complete even with the addition of the attachment "A" documents was made in March.
  - A site inspection was schedule for April 5<sup>th</sup> and cancelled by the Fisters. It is now scheduled for May 3<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm

**SW-08-19 Crone**

- A motion that the application is an incomplete application for the reasons listed below was made by Terry, 2nd by Sean, Motion carried
  - There is no description of shore line including diagrams and or photos
  - There is no detailed information for shoreline impact when accessing dock
  - GMCD requests an alternative to the 4x4 treated or untreated posts.
  - Landowner (Avista) not filled-in

**SW-09-19 Avista**

- A motion to accept as a completed application was made by Mindy, 2nd by Terry, Motion carried
- A motion to approve the permit as submitted was made by Mindy, 2nd by Terry, Motion carried
- 1 Supervisor abstained.
- FWP Waved Site Visit.

**SW-25-18 Zeurcher**

- The project completion form with pictures was reviewed and a motion that the information submitted is sufficient to close this project without a site visit was made by, Mindy 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sean, motion carried.

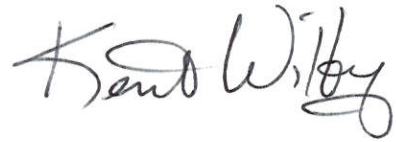
A motion to adjourn at 9:00 pm was made by Terry, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mindy, Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted.



Leona Gollen  
Administrator

Approved.



Kent Wilby  
Chairman



## LOWER CLARK FORK WATERSHED GROUP

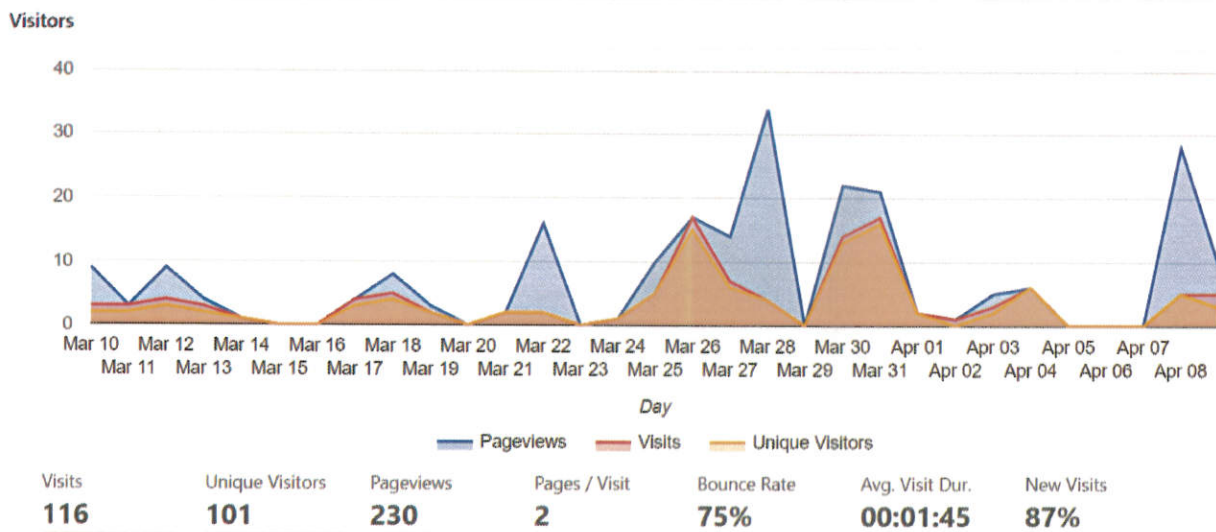
Report to the Green Mountain Conservation District

April 17, 2019

Brita Olson, Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group (LCFWG) Coordinator

### Website

- Final February meeting minutes were posted.
- Draft March meeting minutes were posted.
- April agenda was posted.
- Last month's stats:



### Meetings

2019 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group Meeting and Watershed Restoration Planning Meeting was held on March 26. Meeting notes are out for those if anyone is interested.

### Fly Fishing Film Tour – April 27

Event details are available at: <https://lowerclarkforkwatershedgroup.org/event/2019-fly-fishing-film-tour/>. Posters are out, and I have more – feel free to share! Tickets are on-sale, and I look forward to seeing you all there.

### Story Map Project

I have been working under a Soil and Water Conservation Districts Mini-Grant to develop outreach materials related to water quality. Part of this is using an online web application called ArcGIS Story Maps. These are pretty much finalized, on our website, and will also be accompanied with posters, postcards, and stickers... in time to share and distribute at the Fly Fishing Film Tour!

### Project Updates

We plan to implement 3 different projects on the Lolo National Forest this summer:

- West Fork Fishtrap Road Realignment Project: Currently waiting on road designs, wetland delineation, and a site visit to finalize designs and submit permitting documents.
- Graves Creek Pilot Habitat Enhancement Project: Design is finalized, and permit applications have been submitted. Currently working on developing an RFP.
- Crow Creek Restoration Project – Phase 2: Design is finalized and permits are acquired, save for the 404 which is pending. RFP is out, and pre-bid tour is set for April 17. Plan to award a contract in May.

Please let me know if you are curious about any of these projects, and I'd gladly share more information.





**Education Report**  
**GMCD District Report April, 2019**  
**Mindy Ferrell**

**1) Natural Resource Youth Camp**

- a. I have sent flyers out to all the school counselors with the youth camp poster and application. I've gotten responses back from Noxon and TF of their interest. I resent it to TC (only has 8<sup>th</sup> grade candidates anyway) because Debbie Phillips thinks it got lost in her inbox.

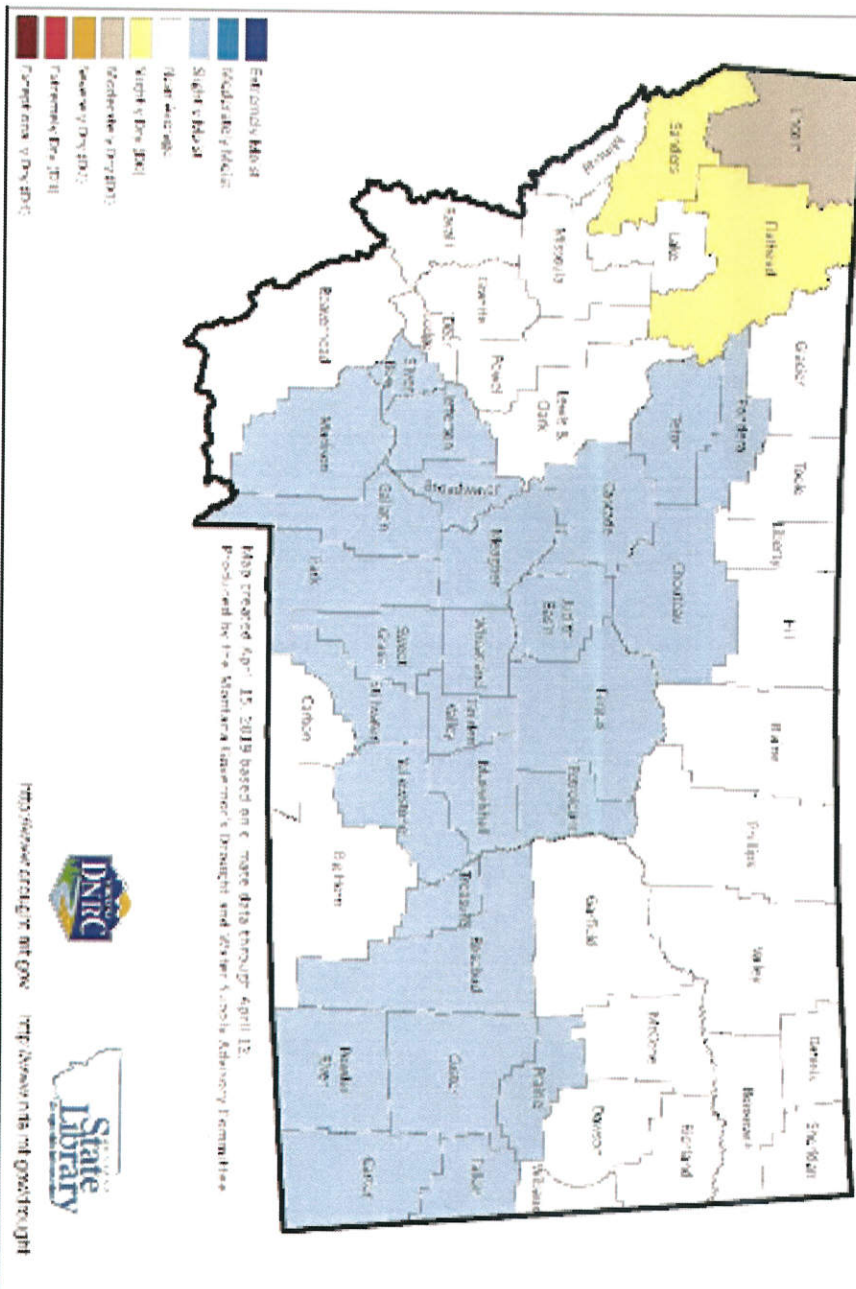
**2) Watershed Festival:**

- a. Charlotte Milling agreed to again being an aquatic/riparian presenter (aquatics/riparian) at the WF again this year.
- b. I've contacted Lily at Clark Fork Coalition out of Msla to see if they are again willing to do aquatic invasives.
- c. We are losing the erosion table station and will need another one. Does anyone have any ideas?
- d. I'm hoping the Watershed Festival planning team will meet in May.

**3) FYI:**

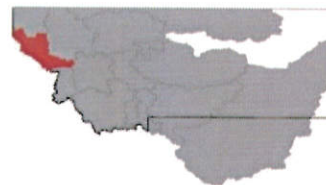
- a. I'll be volunteering at the **Idaho State Forestry Contest** May 9 and will be volunteering at the Bonner County 5<sup>th</sup> grade Watershed Festival on May 17.
- b. I reached out to Noxon Supt Ehinger about considering Environthon for next year and cc'd Mr. Colyer in it. I will call them again next week.
- c. **Cabinet Ranger District's Spring into Summer Recreation Days** are scheduled for May 28 and 29 at Noxon and Trout Creek Schools. I am the lead organizer along with Carly Yoder and Glen Garrison from the District. This year we'll focus on front country recreation: camping skills, in-camp horse care, Bull Trout Trailer, and compass skills.
- d. **Project Ascent** had an amazingly successful 2<sup>nd</sup> fundraiser at the Elks in TF last week. It might be something GMCD wants to add their name to as a contributor.
  - i. Mindy will find out how GMCD can financially sponsor.
  - ii. April 23<sup>rd</sup> for those who are interested in the outdoor walk.

**Montana Drought Status by County - April 15, 2019**





## Lower Clark Fork River Basin



Many were ready for a change in weather after the month of February, and it sure changed quickly. March was extremely dry and all SNOTEL sites used to gauge the snowpack and mountain precipitation were second lowest, or lowest on record for March monthly precipitation totals. Basin-wide precipitation totals were only 35% of average. Due to the lack of snowfall during the month, snowpack percentages have dropped since March 1<sup>st</sup> and range from near normal in the mountains surrounding Missoula to below normal as you move downstream into the northern Bitterroot and Cabinet Ranges. It is in these areas where there is the biggest concern regarding water resources this spring and summer. Smaller streams could face shortages later this summer due to the lack of snowpack and water year precipitation. Streamflow forecasts issued for the April 1<sup>st</sup> – July 31<sup>st</sup> period indicate only slightly below average volumes on the mainstem rivers due to the near to above normal snowpack in the mountains which feed the rivers upstream. The next month or two will dictate the timing and magnitude of snowmelt runoff and streamflows, and water users are encouraged to read the May 1<sup>st</sup> report to find out how conditions have changed during April.

### Lower Clark For River Basin Data Summary

<b>Snowpack</b>	<b>Percent of 1981-2010 Normal (Median)</b>	<b>Last Year Percentage of Normal (Median)</b>
LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN	94%	124%
<b>Basin-Wide</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>124%</b>

<b>Precipitation</b>	<b>Monthly Percentage of Average</b>	<b>WYTD Percentage of 1981-2010 Average*</b>	<b>WYTD Last Year Percentage of Average</b>
Mountain Precipitation	35%	84%	115%
Valley Precipitation	55%	144%	126%
<b>Basin-Wide Precipitation</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>115%</b>

\*Water Year-to-Date (WYTD) Precipitation is October 1st - Current

<b>Reservoir Storage</b>	<b>Percentage of Average</b>	<b>Percentage of Capacity (Total)</b>	<b>Last Year Percentage of Average</b>
<b>Basin-Wide Storage</b>	<b>104%</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>100%</b>

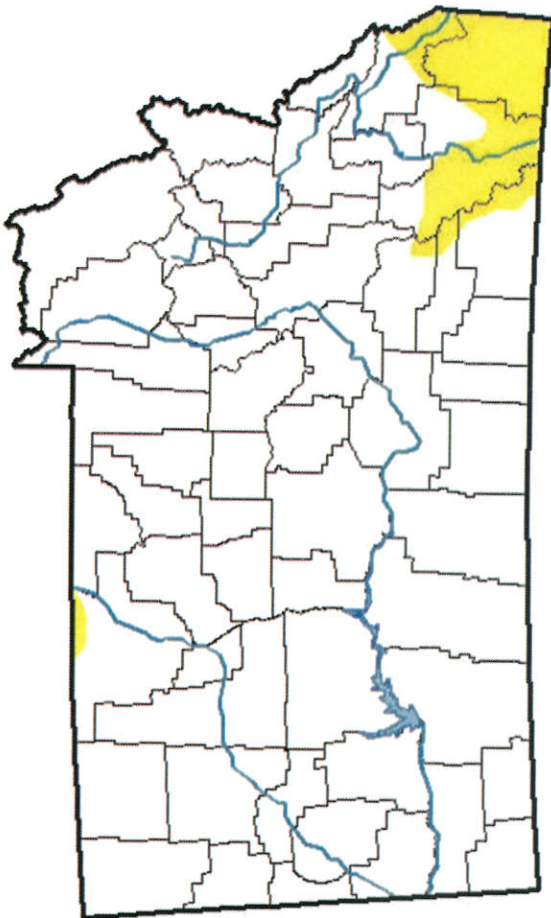
\*See Reservoir Storage Table for storage in individual reservoirs

# U.S. Drought Monitor Montana

**April 9, 2019**

(Released Thursday, Apr. 11, 2019)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	93.58	6.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 04-02-2019	93.79	6.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 01-08-2019	93.69	6.31	0.92	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2019	93.69	6.31	0.92	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-25-2018	46.28	53.72	13.18	2.74	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 04-10-2018	88.33	11.67	5.79	2.11	0.00	0.00

## Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

## Author:

Deborah Bathke  
National Drought Mitigation Center



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>