



Water Pollution Control State Revolving Fund (WPCSRF) Project Priority Ranking System

The projects on the Project Priority List are ranked based on information gathered from the WPCSRF Project Priority List Survey and assigned points for various criteria in a database which results in the numeric ranking for each project as shown in the Project Priority List.

The 5 major categories are:

- Water Quality/Public Health Impacts
- Project Effectiveness (to correct those identified impacts)
- Activity Specific Criteria (for either wastewater or non-point source projects)
- Readiness to Proceed
- Financing

Each criteria within the major categories has a weighted value so DEQ can “customize” the points for each project. Therefore, depending on the severity of the problem, the proposed solution, and depending on project readiness (i.e., design complete, funding in place, etc.) the project will be assigned various points. Each project is re-evaluated each year; therefore, as a project gets closer to actual construction, it will get more points and move up the Project Priority List.

WPCSRF PROJECT PRIORITY LIST SURVEY

Source: http://deq.mt.gov/Portals/112/Water/Forms/WPCSRFsurvey_Revision_3_23_11.pdf

Proposed stormwater, non-point-source or wastewater system improvement needs, excluding operation & maintenance, and growth development.

Name of Community or System: _____

County or Counties: _____

Population of Service Area: _____

Median Household Income of Service Area: _____

Current Average Monthly Residential Water Rate: _____

Current Average Monthly Residential Sewer Rate: _____

Name of Contact Person: _____ Date: _____

Title of Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: () _____ Fax: () _____ Email _____

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Please provide the following information (*As a guideline, do not exceed approximately 200 words per question*):

1. Provide a brief description of the proposed project. Include the reason(s) for the project. Make sure to address the following specific items, where applicable:
 - a. Does the project protect public health (i.e. reducing sewer back-ups, sewerage on-site systems, reduce drinking water impacts, enhance contact recreation safety or enhance operator safety)?
 - b. Will project reduce toxic effects to aquatic life (e.g. chlorine, ammonia or metals to riparian areas)?
 - c. Does the project reduce sediment and/or nutrient loads to surface waters or riparian areas?
 - d. Does the project improve water use efficiency or enhance wildlife habitat?
 - e. Are permit compliance issues being addressed?
 - f. Is the system under formal enforcement action?
 - g. Does the proposed project help meet a TMDL?
 - h. Does the project propose to correct infiltration or inflow in the collection system? (Please describe what is known about the levels of infiltration and inflow into the system).

2. For effluent reuse projects or total retention systems, have water rights or diversion of the point of use been addressed with DNRC? _____

3. Will the project address capacity and/or reliability issues with a unit process and or equipment in the existing system? _____
4. Does the project reduce energy consumption or include energy reducing principles or technologies (explain)? _____
5. Is the water system metered? _____
6. Is an active, on-going I/I reduction program in place? If so describe actions taken to reduce/monitor I/I. _____
7. Provide an estimated project budget, including potential funding sources and the status of all funding applications. Include engineering, legal, and administrative costs in addition to construction related costs. _____
8. Provide a project schedule (month/year) for each key task of the proposed project. (e.g., bond election, P&S submittals, bid date, bid opening, award, construction start, etc.) _____

9. Has a planning document or preliminary engineering report (PER) been prepared and submitted to SRF for review? Has the PER been approved by SRF? _____
10. Has engineer been hired following applicable State of Montana laws for public projects for design and construction management? If yes, please provide contact information. _____

11. Have plans and specifications been prepared and submitted to the WPCSRF program? What is the status of plan and specification submittal? _____
12. Are user rates and charges in place to allow for additional debt service? Have rates and charges been submitted and reviewed by the SRF and found to be adequate? _____
13. All other funding in place (If so, please identify in budget summary)? _____

14. Is project driven by growth issues? Is the project proposing to support development that is less than 50% occupied? _____
15. If a wastewater project, does it extend service to areas now served by septic systems and especially failed on-site septic systems? _____
16. Has a county water and/or sewer district been formed? Do you anticipate that a District will be formed and if so when? _____
17. Does the project result in better stormwater management, which reduces potential for sediment or other pollutants to reach surface water? _____
18. Does project help conserve irrigation water or reduce livestock impacts to riparian zones? _____
19. Additional Information: _____

