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PPL Montana and Missouri-Madison recreation trust announce 2012 award recipients

GREAT FALLS, Mont. (Jan. 5, 2012) — PPL Montana and the Missouri-Madison River Fund will provide \$260,000 toward seven public recreation projects on the Missouri and Madison rivers in 2012.

The \$260,000 contribution from PPL Montana and the Missouri-Madison River Fund will be combined with funds of \$138,000 from other agency and private partners to enable completion of the seven projects totaling \$398,000 this year. The projects support public recreation on the Missouri and Madison rivers, where PPL Montana operates nine of its 11 hydroelectric plants.

“These 2012 funds will support seven competitively selected projects that will further enhance recreation opportunities on the Missouri and Madison rivers,” said Jon Jourdonnais, PPL Montana’s manager of hydro licensing and compliance. “PPL Montana and its 500 employees statewide are proud to support this collaborative private and public effort to improve and maintain recreation on these great rivers for all Montanans.”

Recreation projects include:

- Shoreline stabilization at White Sandy Recreation Area on Hauser Lake.
- Development of a trail maintenance plan for the River’s Edge Trail in Great Falls.
- Improvements to a boat launch on the Madison River above the Bear Trap Canyon Wilderness Area.
- Rehabilitation of fishing access sites on the Madison and Missouri rivers due to damage from high spring flows.
- Replacement of an accessible fishing pier at Black Sandy State Park.

A list of all seven projects can be found under the “river fund” tab at <http://www.missourimadison.com>, a website dedicated to the Missouri-Madison Comprehensive Recreation Plan.

The Missouri-Madison River Fund, a \$6.1 million trust fund for public recreation, was created through the collaborative efforts of PPL Montana; Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks; U.S. Forest Service; U.S. Bureau of Land Management; Madison, Gallatin, Broadwater, Lewis & Clark, Cascade and Chouteau counties; and numerous other public and private partners.

Created as a public-private partnership to meet public recreation needs along the Madison and Missouri rivers, the River Fund supports ongoing efforts to protect and enhance recreation from Hebgen Reservoir downstream to Fort Benton, excluding the Toston and Canyon Ferry hydroelectric plants and the river segment between them. River fund awards for qualifying projects will continue on an annual basis, with grant awards in December.

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PPL Montana has cooperated with other agency and private partners in creating this fund to support its responsibilities for public recreation on nine reservoirs. These reservoirs include Hebgen, Madison, Hauser, Holter and five in the Great Falls area — Black Eagle, Rainbow, Cochrane, Ryan and Morony. PPL Montana's contribution to support the river fund is part of an overall \$40 million commitment since 2000 for recreational and other wildlife, fisheries, habitats and water quality river stewardship projects along a 524-mile portion of the Madison-Missouri River corridor.

PPL Montana provides safe, reliable energy from coal-fired power plants at Colstrip and Billings, as well as 11 hydroelectric plants along West Rosebud Creek and the Missouri, Madison, Clark Fork and Flathead rivers. It has a combined generating capacity of more than 1,200 megawatts and has offices in Billings, Butte and Helena. PPL Montana and its 500 employees are dedicated to Montana and its communities, supporting educational, environmental and economic development programs across the state. PPL EnergyPlus operates a trading floor in Butte that markets and sells power for PPL Montana in wholesale and retail energy markets throughout the western United States. PPL Montana and PPL EnergyPlus are subsidiaries of PPL Corporation (NYSE: PPL). For more information, visit www.pplmontana.com.

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