

**MISSOURI-MADISON RIVER FUND
RECREATION PROJECT
APPLICATION FORM FY2019**

Project Name: _____Spring Creek Campground Gravel Project_____

Reservoir or River Segment: _____Hebgen Lake ____ County(ies): _Gallatin County__

Site Name (or legal location if no site name): _____Spring Creek Campground

Applicant Name and Agency _____Brian Thompson USFS, Hebgen Ranger District
 Position (if applicable) _____Natural Resource Specialist Supervisor
 Address _____330 Gallatin Road West Yellowstone, MT 59758
 Telephone # ___406-823-6971_____ E-mail _____brianthompson@fs.fed.us

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.

Project Sponsor Name _____Brian Thompson
 Agency and Position _____USFS Recreation Manager
 Address _____330 Gallatin Road West Yellowstone, MT 59758_____

Telephone # _____406-823-6971_____ E-mail _____brianthompson@fs.fed.us

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: \$ _____\$15,000_____

Applicant Contributions: \$ _____\$3,000_____

Other Contributions - Please list by source:

_____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____

NorthWestern Energy Match Request: \$ _____\$3,000_____

River Fund Grant Request: \$ _____\$9,000_____

Proposed Project Implementation Period: _____Summer_2019_____

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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? Yes No

This project is an attempt to completely gravel the campsites at Spring Creek Campground. In 2015 the Missouri-Madison River fund approved a grant for \$75,000 to redesign the campground. This was completed in 2018. However, due to cost overruns the campsites were not graveled. We are now requesting additional money to complete the campground as intended.

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? Yes No

3. **Project Description:** Provide a brief (½ page) description of the proposed project.

This summer we finished our upgrades to Spring Creek Campground. However, due to a lack of funds we were not able to gravel all the campsites as originally intended. Our hope is to go in and finish this last part of the project. Leaving us with a high quality product that offers free camping at Hebgen Lake. This project will be as simple as ordering gravel, having it delivered, and spreading it out with our agency's skid steer.

4. **Cultural Resource Management:** NEPA was previously completed and approved for this project so no new cultural review is needed.

Scoring Criteria

5.1 Project is for operation and maintenance of an existing recreation site or an existing Project 2188 license site.

Yes, this project is for improvements at a campground on Hebgen Lake. Currently campers must park their camping units on dirt. This is not ideal and after rain can be quite annoying to our visitors. By placing gravel on the sites we will be creating a better camping experience for our visitors.

5.2 Project involves collaboration with other agencies or organizations.

At this time there are no other agencies teamed with the Forest Service for this project.

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).

This project will provide a noticeable benefit to the recreating public. By placing a clean, gravel surface on each of the campsites we will be reducing soil runoff in the lake as well as creating a better camping experience for our visitors.

5.4 Project responds to a clearly identified need.

We have received overwhelming support for our improvements at Spring Creek Campground. However, almost to the person, those responding to our surveys have requested gravel in the campsites to reduce the amount of dirt that gets inside their campers as well as to reduce the amount of erosion at the sites and improve water quality near the campground.

5.5 Project design options have been considered, estimated, and a preferred design selected.

This project has been reviewed by the Engineering Department at the Supervisors Office and designed by certified civil engineers. Currently we are using market prices for gravel with delivery costs. We plan to use agency personnel and equipment to spread the gravel.

5.6 Project supports or protects other resources and is consistent with or supports resource plans in the Project Area.

This project will greatly increase the camping experience at Spring Creek. The numbers show that the improvements made at this campsite are welcomed by the public and are leading to increased visitation. We hope to finish what we started and complete the campground and have some of the finest campsites in Gallatin County.

6. See attached map of site location.

