

**MISSOURI-MADISON RIVER FUND RECREATION PROJECT
FY2024 GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

Project Name: Headwaters State Park Bear Resistant Garbage Storage Project

Reservoir or River Segment: Hebgen-Madison Region County(ies) Gallatin

Site Name (or project location): Missouri Headwaters State Park

Applicant Name: Linnaea Schroeer

Position and Agency: Region 3 Recreation Manager, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks

Telephone: (406) 577-7887

Email: lschroeer@mt.gov

Project Sponsor Name: Linnaea Schroeer

Position and Agency: Region 3 Recreation Manager, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks

Telephone: (406) 577-7887

Email: lschroeer@mt.gov

Project Cost Breakdown and Financial Request:

Complete the financial section below by providing total project cost (to the nearest dollar), contributions by applicant and cooperators, request for NorthWestern Energy match of agency funds (see detailed instruction), 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.

Total project cost:	<u>\$20,346</u>	
Applicant Contributions – cash	<u>\$4,000</u>	
Applicant Contributions – value of in-kind:	<u>\$</u>	
Other Contributions – Please list by source:		
	<u>\$</u>	Percentage of Total Project Cost:
Total Applicant and Other Contributions:	<u>\$4,000</u>	<u>20%</u>
NorthWestern Energy Match Request:	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>5%</u>
River Fund Grant Request:	<u>\$15,346</u>	<u>75%</u>
Proposed Project Implementation Period:	<u>Spring 2024</u>	

**MISSOURI-MADISON RIVER FUND RECREATION PROJECT
FY2024 GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

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

2. **Project Description:** Provide a description of the proposed project. Be sure to include specific project elements that are planned, and any associated cost detail.

- ▶ This project involves purchasing Interagency Grizzly Bear Council-approved garbage bins and food storage lockers in Missouri Headwaters State Park (MHSP).

Human-bear conflicts have been greatly increasing throughout Montana and especially in Gallatin County in the last 10 years. One of the main causes behind human-bear conflicts are food-conditioned bears. These bears, through feeding on garbage, bird seed, dog food, etc., begin to associate the presence of humans with the availability of food, and they then approach other houses, businesses, and campgrounds seeking more food rewards. These encounters are dangerous to people and bears alike and often result in the bear(s) being euthanized. As the population of both bears and humans expand in areas like the Gallatin Valley, it is very important that FWP-managed sites follow bear-safety protocols and model desired behavior.

Currently, MHSP only has conventional garbage cans and no food storage lockers, and managers would like to replace the 5 existing conventional garbage cans with bear-resistant bins, and place food storage lockers in 9 of the 18 campsites at the park. Food storage lockers allow campers to safely store food away from bears, racoons, and other animals, instead of leaving the food in coolers outside, in their tents, or even frequently out on the table. We are only planning on putting in 9 storage lockers at this point because we would like to assess if they are used for their intended purpose before placing them at more locations within the MHSP campground or at other campgrounds along the Madison River and throughout the region.

3. **Project Phasing:** Briefly discuss whether the project could be phased over more than one year or construction season.

- ▶ If this project is approved and funded, we plan on installing the bins and storage lockers at MHSP in late spring and early summer. Installation of the bins and lockers require attaching them to poured concrete footings, which would be done by FWP maintenance staff. The labor and materials for the assembly and installation of these items represent the in-kind contributions.

4. **Cultural Resource Management:** Cultural Resource Management (CRM) requirements for any activity related to this Project must be completed and documented to NorthWestern Energy as a condition of awarded River Fund grant funds or NorthWestern Energy matching funds. Grant and matching funds may not be used for any land-disturbing activity, or the modification, renovation, or removal of any buildings or structures until the CRM consultation process has been completed. Agency applicants must submit a copy of the proposed project to a designated Cultural Resource Specialist for their agency. Private parties or non-governmental organizations are encouraged to submit a copy of their proposed project to a CRM consultant they may have employed. Private parties and non-governmental organizations may also contact the NorthWestern Energy representative for further information or assistance. Applications submitted without this section completed will be held without any action until the information has been submitted.

Summarize how you will complete requirements for Cultural Resource Management.

- ▶ A copy of the project proposal will be submitted to the Montana State Parks Cultural Resource Specialist, Rachel Reckin. Rachel Reckin will review and recommend any actions to conform with any cultural resource requirements.

5. **Scoring Criteria.** Respond to the following Scoring Criteria. Put answers in the cell after ►.

5.1 Does the project occur at a 2188 license site?

- The project would occur at Missouri Headwaters State Park, which falls within the Hebgen-Madison Region but is not a 2188 license site.

5.2 Project is for operation and maintenance of an existing recreation site. Describe if the project will meet operation and maintenance needs. Higher points awarded to projects that are higher priority and are not a recurring expense. Lower points awarded to projects that are low priority and/or have been previously funded. It is unlikely that the timeframe of River Fund would address emergency operation and maintenance needs but could support non-emergency operation and maintenance needs.

- This project will contribute to public safety and reduce human-animal conflict at Missouri Headwaters State Park.

5.3 Project involves collaboration with other agencies or organizations. Identify project partners other than NorthWestern Energy or River Fund, if any, and describe their participation. Document all funding sources and all in-kind support and services to a project, because all are sources of partnerships and in-kind contributions from public agencies qualify for calculation of NorthWestern Energy matching funds. If there are no project partners, explain why.

- If this project is approved, local volunteers will be recruited to help install the bear bins and lockers. If this project is successful, we will work with local partners to pursue funding for purchase and installation at more sites in the region.

5.4 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). Identify how the project provides a benefit to public recreation and describe how the project specifically addresses issues and goals in Chapter 2-1 of the CRP.

- **Goal:**
To promote responsible user behavior that protects natural, cultural, and social resources in the Project Area.

Human-bear conflicts have been increasing throughout southwest MT, becoming a high priority management issue. By placing bear resistant containers in our campground and picnic areas FWP strives to reduce bear access to human foods and thus reduce the chance for potential human-bear conflicts.

Goal:

To maintain or proactively increase public safety for recreationists in the Project Area.

Securing food and garbage is critically important to the safety of park visitors, especially as bear populations increase and expand their geographic range in SW Montana. Not only does securing garbage prevent conflict between humans and bears, but it also prevents agency resources from being wasted on trapping, relocating and more often, destroying food conditioned bears.

5.5 Project responds to a clearly identified need. Describe and document the need for this project and how the project would address that need. Cite specific sources, as possible, to establish need and support the project. Discuss consequences if the funding request is unsuccessful. For a new construction or acquisition project, identify how post-project, long-term costs (such as site maintenance and management) will be provided.

- ▶ Educating the public about bear safety and encouraging people to follow protocols to reduce conflict with bears is a high priority with FWP. Securing attractants like garbage and food in campsites is one of the clearest ways people can protect themselves and bears from coming into immediate conflict or creating food-conditioned bears that will become a management problem in the future. Please see [FWP Living In Bear Country | Montana FWP \(mt.gov\)](#) for more information.

5.6 *Project design options have been considered, estimated, and a preferred design selected.* Well-designed projects reduce occurrences of budgetary overages, design changes, and additional complications. Discuss the current design phase for this project, demonstrate that the project has been well vetted, and include cost estimates.

- ▶ Managers consulted the [Bear Resistant Products - Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee \(igbconline.org\)](#) site to research products, as well as speaking with other managers who have personally used these products in the past. Managers considered using less expensive plastic garbage cans but realized that those were designed for residential use and wouldn't work in a park setting.

Estimated costs are as follows:

BearSaver 30-gallon slanted roof trash cans	5 @ \$997 = \$ 4,985
Bearicuda bear proof lockers	9 @ 1374 =\$12,366
Shipping	\$2,995
	\$20,346

**FWP labor and materials contribution valued at approx. \$4,244

5.7 *Project supports or protects other resources and is consistent with or supports resource plans in the Project Area.* Describe how this project will protect resource values (such as public access, water quality, fisheries, wildlife, habitats, and cultural resources) and support other resource and agency plans, including Project 2188 License plans and land use and land management plans in place in the Corridor. Management plans should provide justification for the project.

- ▶ Reducing human-bear conflict is a management priority for Montana FWP, and the agency has just kicked off a new campaign where September 2023 is Bear Aware Month. This outreach and education effort includes events throughout the state at regional headquarters, Montana Wild, fairs, festivals, and farmers markets, and a large social media and print media marketing campaign. Videos and other information have been produced on various topics such as 'Living in Bear Country', 'Recreating in Bear Country', and others. All materials stress the importance of securing food and garbage out of the reach of bears. See [Bears In Montana | Montana FWP \(mt.gov\)](#). Following bear safety guidelines protect resource values and human safety at our sites, and will be part of the new Missouri Headwaters State Park Master Plan, which is currently in development.

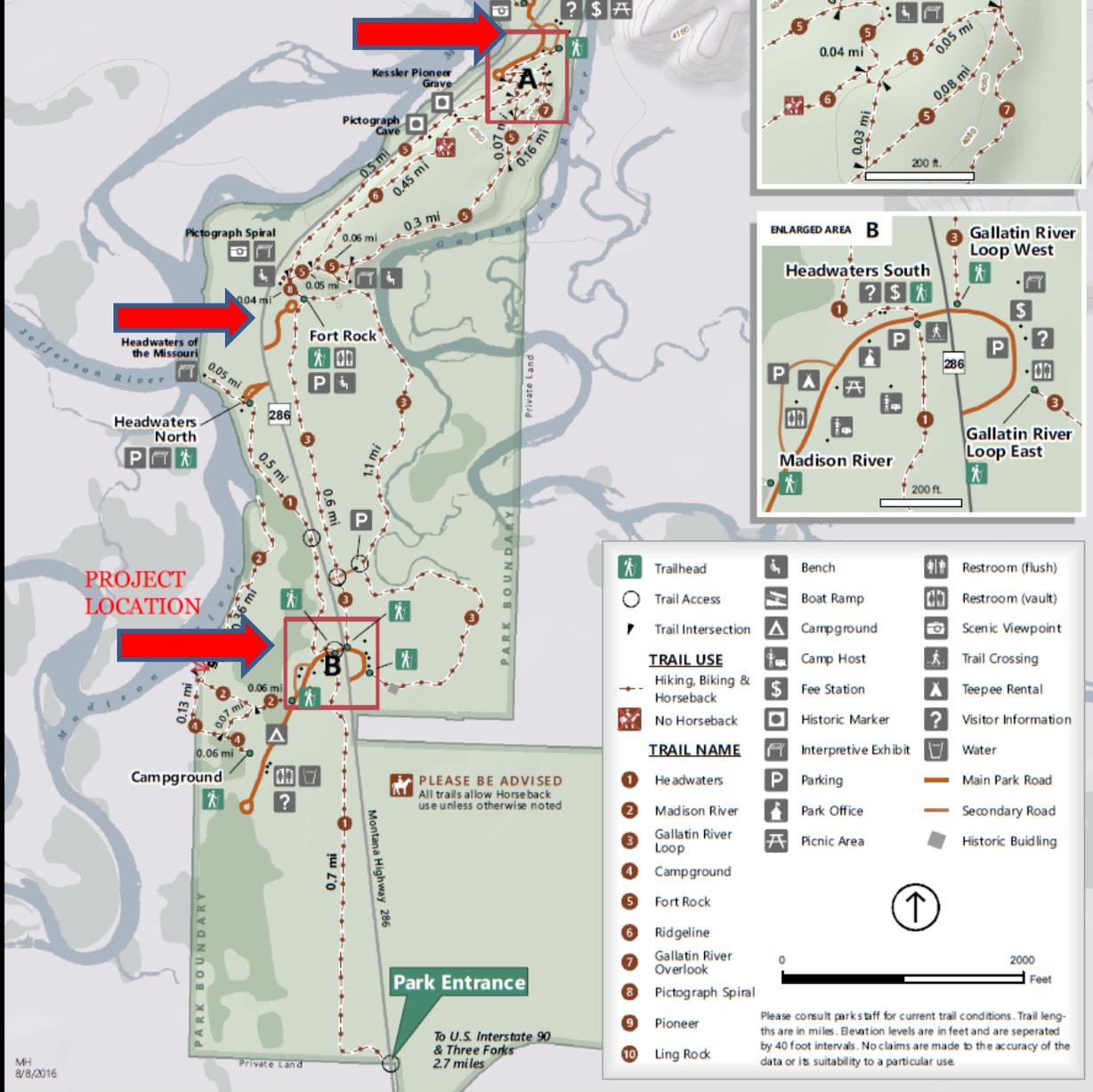
6. Insert map(s) showing the location of the proposed project, drawings and design work related to the project, and a reasonable number of photos (as available) here.



MISSOURI HEADWATERS

STATE PARK | TRAIL MAP

DIVISION OF MONTANA
FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS
STATEPARKS.MT.GOV



MH
8/8/2016

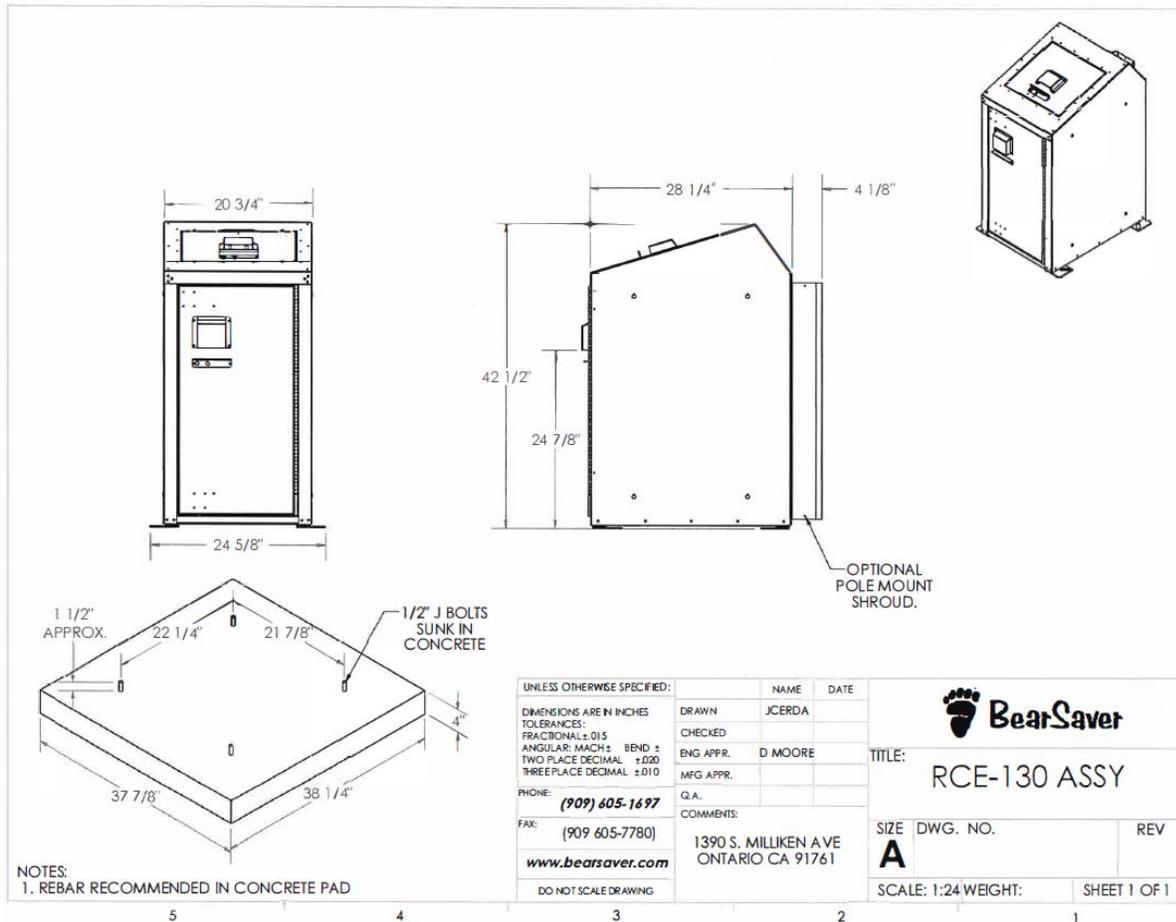


Image 1 (above). Diagram of the 30-gallon bearsaver garbage can.



Image 2. Bear-resistant food storage locker.



Equipment Proposal

Customer: Montana State Parks	Date: Sep 8, 2023
Attention: Linnaea Schroeer	Phone: (406) 577-7887
Ship To: CARDWELL, MT 59721	Email: lschroeer@mt.gov

Equipment Proposed	Model #	Color	Qty	Unit Price	Ext. Price
MID-SIZE FOOD STORAGE LOCKER - QTY 1-24 24 CU/FT CAPACITY, ANIMAL RESISTANT, ADA COMPLIANT	FS24-UP	Forest Brown	9	\$ 1,374.00	\$ 12,366.00
RESIDENTIAL SINGLE TRASH CAN ENCLOSURE - QTY 1-24 30 GALLON CAPACITY, ANIMAL RESISTANT, CAN INCLUDED, SLANTED ROOF, TRASH LABEL	RCE130F	Forest Brown	5	\$ 997.00	\$ 4,985.00

	Equipment Total:	\$ 17,351.00
	Tax:	\$ 0.00
Lift Gate Required: No	Shipping/Handling:	\$ 2,995.00
	Total:	\$20,346.00

Terms
<p>Federal government terms are per GSA contract GS-07F-6004P. State, County and Municipal government terms are Net 30 days. Non-government orders under \$10,000 are payable by check or credit card prior to order acceptance. Non-government orders over \$10,000 must be paid by check prior to order acceptance or, if paid by credit card will be subject to a 3% processing fee. All Orders FOB Ontario, California unless specified. Lead time is approximately 45-90 Days ARO <i>and will be confirmed at time of order.</i> Quote is valid for 30 days with the exception of freight charges.</p>