

Hello -

On behalf of the Missouri River Conservation Districts Council (MRCDC) and the Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Montana (SWCDM), we are pleased to announce that another round of funding is available through the *Ranching for Rivers* program. *Ranching for Rivers* is a cost-share program to help ranchers with riparian pasture/fencing projects. **This current round of funding will be focused on projects east of the Continental Divide (Missouri and Yellowstone River Basins), but applications from other areas will be considered. Projects have to be completed by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 to be eligible for cost-share.** Additional rounds of funding are anticipated to be available in July of 2017 with later end dates and different focus areas. Please share this info with your Board and any landowners you know of that may be interested in this program.

The purpose of the program is to provide landowners with the needed resources to voluntarily construct fences and/or other infrastructure (crossings, water gaps, etc.) that enable them to better manage the riparian resources on their land. To accomplish this purpose, Ranching for Rivers has secured a grant that provides \$45,000 in cost-share for landowners to construct riparian pastures to benefit their operation and its natural resources. The cost-share is designed to cover up to 50% of the cost of fence or constructions (up to a maximum allowable cost defined on the application) and can be paired with other funding sources to further reduce the out-of-pocket cost to landowners. Unlike EQIP, landowners do not have to financially qualify for the assistance.

A simple application (attached), describing the proposed project is all that will be required to evaluate projects. Although no monitoring is required under this round of funding, before and after pictures are encouraged to demonstrate the value of the projects and their benefit to the riparian resources, and to support continued funding for the Program. The timeline to have this first round of funds spent is very tight, so priority will be given to projects that are already in the planning and preparation phases. For more information on this program, contact Rachel Frost ([mrcdc@macdnet.org](mailto:mrcdc@macdnet.org); [406-454-0056](tel:406-454-0056)).

Please submit completed applications to:

Teresa Wilhelms, Judith Basin Conservation District

*Teresa.wilhelm@mt.nacdnet.net*

or mail to

Judith Basin Conservation District  
Attn: Teresa Wilhelms  
121 Central Ave  
Stanford, MT 59479

The first round of application reviews will begin April 10<sup>th</sup> and continue until all funds have been disbursed. Get your application in early to be considered!

Thank you!

# Ranching For Rivers

## Cost share application

Funding availability is limited. The first round of application reviews will begin April 10, 2017, and continue on a rolling basis until all available funds have been distributed.

***ALL PROJECTS MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2017  
TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT***

Please fill out & return to: Teresa Wilhelms, Judith Basin Conservation District

*Teresa.wilhelm@mt.nacdnet.net*

Or by mail to: 121 Central Ave, Stanford, MT 59479

### **Applicant Information**

Applicant / Landowner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Location of Project**

Conservation District you're working with: \_\_\_\_\_

River or stream where project is located: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Project Description**

Please give a brief description of the project:

---

---

---

---

---

### **Project Timeline**

Will you be able to complete the project *before* \*September 30, 2017? \_\_\_\_\_

\* The funding for this program expires on September 30, 2017, therefore all projects must be completed and expenses submitted for reimbursement prior to that date. \*

*Ranching for Rivers is a partner project funded and run by:*



## Fencing Project Information

Estimated feet of fencing needed: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of fencing to be installed: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated acreage affected: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated total fencing project cost: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\* Reimbursements based on set maximum costs allowed per practice. (See Appendix 1 for maximum cost guidelines. Costs are already listed at 50% of cost share, so these are the accepted reimbursement)*

## Water Development Project Information

Type of water development to be installed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated feet of pipeline needed: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated acreage affected: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated total water development project cost: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\* Reimbursements based on set maximum costs allowed per practice. (See Appendix 1 for maximum cost guidelines)*

## Total Estimated Project Cost

Estimated total project cost (fencing & water development): \_\_\_\_\_

\*Other associated expenses: \_\_\_\_\_

**Funding assistance requested (max 50% of total):** \_\_\_\_\_

*Reimbursement for installation of approved riparian cost-share practices up to 50% of the total project costs not to exceed set maximum costs allowed per practice. (See Appendix 1 for maximum cost guidelines)*

*Please attach a map of the proposed project to this application. Maps can be obtained through Google Earth or from your local conservation district.*

### **Questions on this application??**

**Contact Rachel Frost      406-454-0056**

***mrcdc@macdnet.org***

*Ranching for Rivers is a partner project funded and run by:*



## Appendix 1. Maximum Cost-Share Allowed for Ranching for Rivers Projects †

Code	Practice	Component	Units	Unit Cost	Cost Share
382	Fence	Protection, Sensitive Areas / Threatened, Endangered, and/or Sensitive Species	ft	3.76	100%
382	Fence	Wire Difficult	ft	1.87	100%
382	Fence	Barbed/Smooth Wire	ft	1.26	100%
382	Fence	Electric	ft	1.33	100%
614	Watering Facility	Winter, with Storage	gal	2.23	100%
614	Watering Facility	Permanent Drinking with Storage, 500 to 1,000 Gallons	gal	1.49	100%
614	Watering Facility	Permanent Drinking with Storage, 1,000 to 5,000 Gallons	gal	1.33	100%
614	Watering Facility	Permanent Drinking with Storage, less than 500 Gallons	gal	1.73	100%
614	Watering Facility	Automatic or Winter, No Storage, less than 450 Gallons	Ea	621.72	100%
614	Watering Facility	Permanent Drinking with Storage, greater than 5,000 gallons	gal	0.61	100%
614	Watering Facility	Storage Tank	gal	0.58	100%
516	Livestock Pipeline	Below Frost PVC, HDPE, IPS, PE	ft	1.2	100%
516	Livestock Pipeline	Adverse Conditions	ft	3.09	100%
516	Livestock Pipeline	Buried PVC, IPS, HDPE, PE	ft	1.08	100%
578	Stream Crossing	Hard-armored Low-water Crossing	sq ft	2.64	100%

† Derived from USDA NRCS approved cost share practices for FY 2017. USDA NRCS Field Office Technical Guide. Costs are already listed at 50% of total cost, so you do not need to reduce by 50% for project estimate.

*\*While we tried to be comprehensive in the above list of accepted practices, we realize that there are always exceptions and unique situations. Please feel free to submit special requests and they will be considered along with the above listed practices.*

*Ranching for Rivers is a partner project funded and run by:*

