

BUTTE AREA ONE RESTORATION SMALL PROJECT SUBMITTAL FORM

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A. Project Summary and Map

For the past number of years the wetlands in the urban corridor just south of I-90, and west of Lexington Street, have been identified by many birders and conservationists as one of Butte's hidden jewels (Montana Standard MAY 2012). The wetland consists of two bodies of water. Current ownership of the larger wetland area is by Arco Environmental Remediation LLC. The smaller pond on the northwest corner of the wetland is separated from the major wetland by a causeway that was likely constructed using metals laden tailings. This smaller pond has a three-way ownership (1) Arco (2) BSB (3) private individuals adjacent to the pond. This wetland complex is the largest body of water within the urban corridor but is currently inaccessible due to this ownership, except by trespass (2012, BNRDP proposal).



The wetland is teeming with birdlife that are visible to hundreds of people every day who travel the Interstate. It is important year-round habitat for many native waterfowl especially geese and ducks and is seasonal nesting habitat to many other species including several grebes, American Coot, Great Blue Heron, Red-Winged Blackbirds and numerous shorebird species. The wetland land is a mosaic of open water and cattails. Willows, primarily sandbar willow form a fringe surrounding the wetland. Other native shrubs and trees at the site include cottonwood, Red Osier Dogwood, and Rocky Mountain juniper on dry slopes (2012 BNRDP proposal).

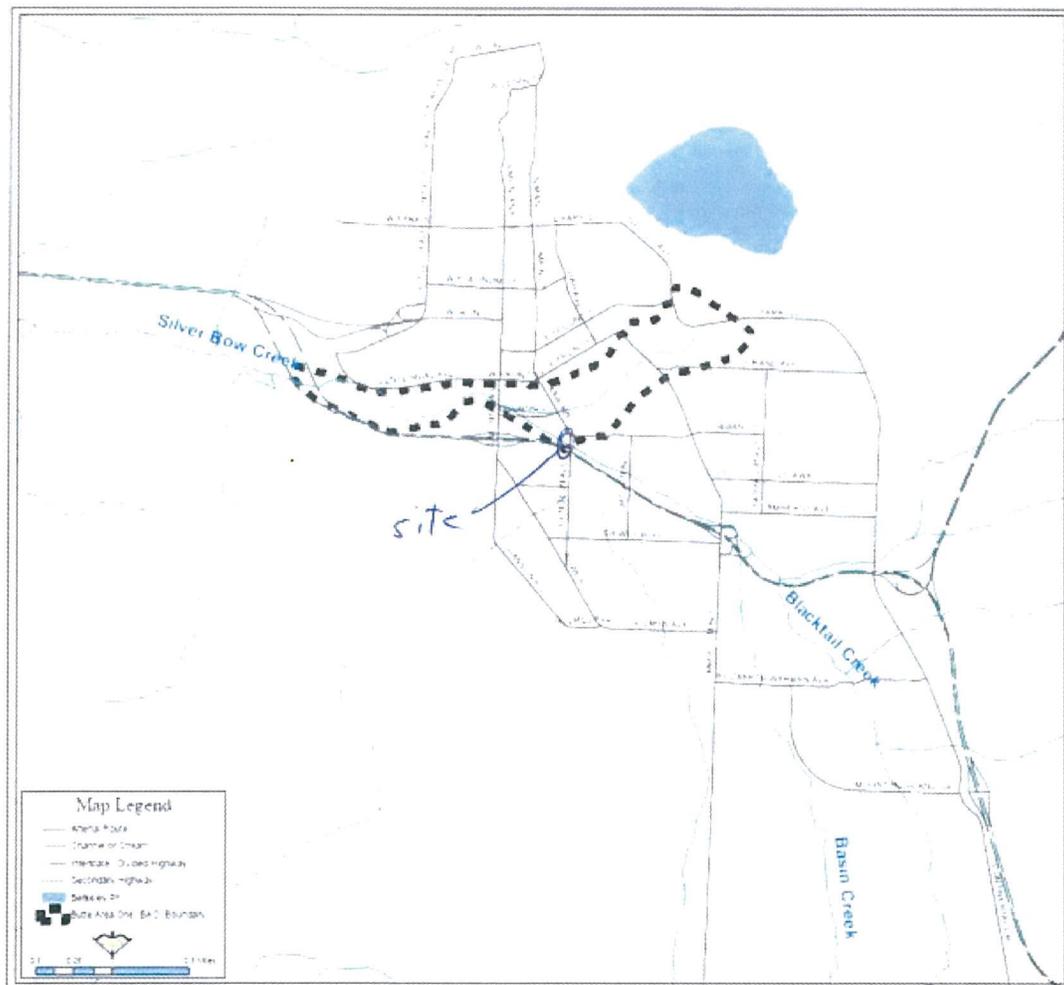
A previous proposal was submitted to the Butte Natural Resource Damage Program in 2012 to develop the "Butte Urban Bird Sanctuary Avian Park, and Water Recreation Area". The project was not developed as numerous issues needing resolution were identified including:

- Identification of stakeholders, and willingness to work together
- Ownership, willingness to participate & financial demands

- Identification of existing environmental issues (mine waste and sanitary sewage)
- Drainage issues,
- Long term maintenance and operation issues.
- Identification of matching funds for project development.

This Butte Area One Small grant proposal seeks funding to address these issues and if successful develop a conceptual plan for the project, seek matching funds and submission of a project proposal to the Butte Area One Small grants program for its implementation in 2015.

Butte Area One Map



Legal Description S.E. Corner Section 24 T3N-R8W

B. Project Goals and Objectives

As there are numerous potential deal breakers which must be resolved prior to investing funds the proposed project will be carried out in two phases. Phase 2 will not be initiated if the phase 1 goal is not met

Phase 1

Project Goal: Assess the potential for turning the Lexington Avenue wetland into a bird sanctuary/viewing area

- Objective 1. Determination of existing owner's willingness to participate in development of a conceptual site plan & potential financial or legal constraints
- Objective 2. Identification of existing environmental & other site issues (mine waste and sanitary sewage & drainage issues)
- Objective 3. Identification of long term maintenance and operation issues and responsible parties.

Phase 2

Project Goal: Development of a conceptual plan for inclusion in a Butte Area One Small Project grant request in 2015

- Objective 1 Develop a working group of participating stakeholders to design site activities and required infrastructure
- Objective 2. Develop funding proposals

C. Project Benefits

As cited in the 2012 BNRDP proposal the project would take an area that is neglected and not utilized by the community and convert it to a showcase for those traveling through while also creating a park and recreational area which would provide bird watching, educational, picnicking, walking and biking opportunities in the heart of town. Assuming water quality and wildlife concerns are met, this area may provide fishing opportunities and other water based activities. The area would be a great amenity to neighborhoods south of the Interstate. The opportunity for biological study by area school children would be greatly enhanced by a nature park in close proximity to the urban area. Educational materials and signage on the walking trails in the area would enhance the experience of the avian park/ sanctuary.

D. Project Implementation

Phase 1

Objective 1. Determination of existing owner's willingness to participate in development of a conceptual site plan & potential financial or legal constraints

Tasks

- 1) Meet with current owners to assess willingness to participate in development of a conceptual plan for the area, preferred site activities and key issues.
- 2) Meet w/BNRDP staff to review and determine go or no go.

Timeline: February 2105

Staff: Ted Dodge & Emily Tafoya, Rural Community Solutions

Objective 2. Identification of existing environmental & other site issues (mine waste and sanitary sewage & drainage issues)

Tasks

- 1) Review existing reports & data sets
- 2) Meet with BSB Public Works staff
- 3) Develop Sampling Analysis Plan & costs estimates for its implementation
- 4) Meet with BNRDP staff to review and determine go or no go

Timeline: April 2105

Staff: Dodge & Tafoya

Objective 3. Identification of long term maintenance and operation issues and responsible parties.

Tasks

- 1) Meet w/ BSB Parks & Recreation Staff to establish key issues
- 2) Identify other stakeholder groups, preferred site activities if any & potential project participant's wiliness to make commitments to the maintenance and operation of the site long term.
- 3) Establish operation and annual maintenance costs & seek conceptual agreement to contribution of same.
- 4) Meet with BNRDP staff to review and determine go or no go

Timeline: June 2015

Staff: Dodge & Tafoya

Phase 2

Objective 1 Develop a working group of participating stakeholders to design site activities and required infrastructure

Tasks

- 1) Convene working group of stakeholders to develop proposed site activities & required infrastructure
- 2) Secure design assistance for conceptual plan from area institutions of higher learning or pro bono professional assistance & complete conceptual plan

Timeline: October 2015

Staff: Dodge & Tafoya & pro bono professional technical assistance

Objective2. Develop funding proposals

Tasks

- 1) Conduct funding search, write matching grants & meet with local corporations and businesses to secure matching funds
- 2) Write Butte Area One Small Grant program Grant (in-kind from RCS)

Timeline; December 2015

Staff: Dodge & Tafoya

F. Monitoring Activities

Project staff will meet with BNDRP staff at the conclusion of each objective in phase one to reach a go or no go for the project. This approach will assure that critical milestones will be achieved before any additional funds are allocated to the project implementation.

G. Project Budget

Objective1.

Tasks

1) 20 hrs Professional services@ \$50/hr.	\$ 1,000.00
2) 2hrs. Professional services @\$50/hr.	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 1,100.00

Objective 2

Tasks

1) 10 hrs. Professional services @\$50/hr.	\$ 500.00
2) 2 hrs. Professional services @\$50/hr.	\$ 100.00
3) 25 hrs. Professional services @\$50/hr.	\$1,250.00
4) 2 hrs. Professional services @ \$50/hr.	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Subtotal	\$1,950.00

Objective 3.

Tasks

1) 2hrs. Professional services @\$50/hr.	\$ 100.00
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2) 25 hrs. Professional services	@\$50/hr.	\$1,250.00
3) 8 hrs. Professional services	@\$50/hr.	\$ 400.00
4) 2 hrs. Professional services	@\$50/hr.	\$ 100.00
	Subtotal	\$1,850.00

TOTAL Phase 1 \$4,900.00

Phase 2

Objective 1

Tasks

1) 8 hrs. Professional Services	@\$50/hr.	\$ 400.00
*2) 40 hrs Professional services	@\$50/hr.	\$ 2,000.00
	Subtotal	\$2,400.00

Objective2.

Tasks

1) 40 hrs professional Services	@\$50/hr.	\$2,000.00
2) 24 hrs. In-kind, RCS		-0-
	Subtotal	\$2,000.00

TOTAL Phase 2 \$4,200.00

GRAND TOTAL \$9,100.00

- Only time included for Dodge & Tafoya. Pro Bono assistance not calculated as match As undetermined at this time.