**HB223 Grants**

**Gallatin Conservation District**

*Camp/Godfrey Creek Rehabilitation Project Statement*

The objective of the project is to improve water quality in the Camp Creek / Godfrey Creek Watersheds, both streams are listed as impaired by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MTDEQ). Water quality will be improved by managing livestock access to waterways, installing riparian fencing, providing off-stream water facilities and re-vegetating stream banks. Ultimate success will be measured by quantifying pre-NWQI project water samples with post-NWQI water samples, however, the more immediate deliverables will be feet of riparian fence installed, number of new off-stream watering facilities, acres of riparian habitat restored, and linear feet of streambank stabilized.

**Lewis & Clark County Conservation District**

*Sun River Watershed CMZ Mapping Phase II*

This project would allow for the extension of the Channel Migration Zone map of the Sun River currently in progress to add: 1) additional analysis of the Sun River reaches impacted by recent floods; and, 2) extension of the CMZ map currently in progress to include Elk Creek, from its confluence with Smith Creek to the Sun River. This area was extensively damaged by 2018 and 2019 flooding. This second phase of CMZ mapping will provide an important tool for flood planning and mitigation project by helping to identify areas of past and projected channel migration and assess risk to those reaches.

**Powder River Conservation District**

*Weather Reporting for Powder River County*

There is a shortage of reliable weather data in Powder River County for producers, agencies, and local businesses to use. Davis Instrument weather stations and CoCoRaHS precipitation gauges are accurate and provide precise weather data. The stations will be installed to provide exact readings. Four landowners will sign an agreement with PRCD to monitor the equipment and websites to ensure the information is being uploaded. If the data is being uploaded onto the websites, the equipment will be left in their possession. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Weather Service (NWS), and Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow (CoCoRaHS) are always looking for additional accurate weather information. Farm Service Agency (FSA) utilizes local weather data to determine eligibility for disaster programs. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) makes recommendations for grazing rotations, seeding rates, and disaster programs by local precipitation and other weather data acquired by weather stations.

This data will address the three priorities of Powder River Conservation District (PRCD), which include Rangeland Health, Water Resources, and Soil Health. The weather stations will be located in the northeast, north central, southeast, and southwest regions of the county.

Each landowner will be donating in-kind contributions of an estimated $17,700 of time and WiFi over five years and receiving equipment worth $1227 or $3540 per year of in-kind contribution while receiving equipment worth $245 per year.

**Treasure County Conservation District**

*John Deere 1590 No till Drill*

Treasure County Conservation District enjoys the privilege of being able to provide farm rental equipment to the producers in our area. Many of the producers cannot afford to purchase the equipment or their small amount of acreages does not justify the expense. We have seen over the last 5 years the benefits of having a no till drill for lease. It has been used in all areas of Treasure County, covering thousands of acres.